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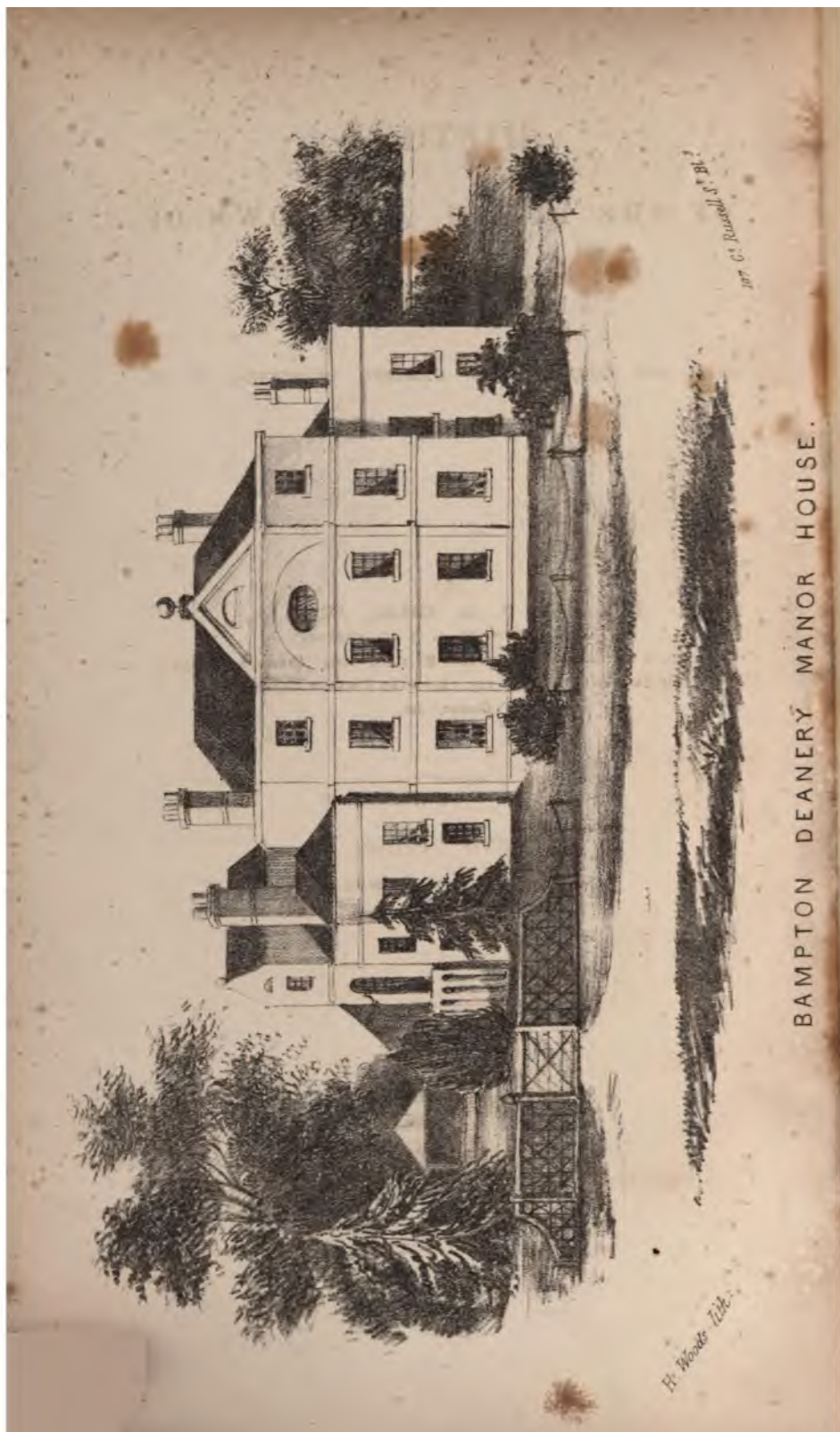
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BAMPTON DEANERY MANOR HOUSE.

HISTORY
OF THE PARISH AND TOWN OF
BAMPTON,

WITH THE DISTRICT AND HAMLETS BELONGING TO IT.

BY
THE REV. J. A. GILES, ~~D. C. L.~~,
LATE FELLOW OF C. C. C. OXFORD,
AUTHOR OF "HISTORY OF THE ANCIENT BRITONS," THE "LIFE AND LETTERS
OF THOMAS A BECKET," THE "LIFE AND TIMES OF ALFRED THE
GREAT," &c.

SECOND EDITION,
ENLARGED AND CORRECTED.

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A. D. 1500, Dec. 15, Thomas Hoyer, by the death of Robert Holcot.

A. D. 1506, Dec. 19, John Southwode S. T. B., by the resignation of Edmund Wylleford.

A. D. 1585. Nov. 22, Henry Walmsley, M. A.

A. D. 1595, May 16, Humphrey Hargrave, by the resignation of Robert Sibthorp, M. A.

A. D. 1595, July 14, Robert Joye, M. A. by the death of Henry Doltin.

A. D. 1598, July 7, John Howson, M. A., by the death of Humphrey Hargrave.

Page 86. In the Rawlinson MS. are the following notices of arms and painted glass which existed in Old Shifford church.

“Agt Nth wall of Chancell with arms :

Or : chev. sab. between 3 black lions rampant of the second, impaling az. a bend or, between 3 hers of the same.

In one of the South windows are three figures, one of a woman, the other two men : under the woman SANCTA MARIA, under the 2 men SANCTUS JACOBUS—SANCTUS ANTONIUS. Near the latter his pig stands under the same light. In the east wall of the church, CHRISTOPHER KEENE, THOMAS STAMPE, STEVEN GREENE and WILLIAM LINSEY, churchwardens of this parish, anno Domini 1668.”

Page 94. In the Oxford Institution-books, No VII, p. 147.

A. D. 1831, June 8. The Honorable and Right Reverend, Richard, Bishop of Oxford, licensed the Rev. Walter Postumus Powell, clerk, B. A. to the Grammar-School, on the nomination of the three vicars, the Rev. C. L. Kerby, Rev. John Robinson, * and Rev. Dr. Winstanley, and the Trustees of the Grammar-School.

* This is an evident error : two vicars have been made out of one, the Rev. Dr. John Robinson Winstanley. The institution-books abound in such mistakes.

TO
FREDERICK WHITAKER ESQUIRE, OF BAMPTON,
ONE OF HER MAJESTY'S JUSTICES OF THE PEACE
FOR THE COUNTY OF OXFORD,
THIS HISTORY OF HIS NATIVE TOWN .
IS DEDICATED
BY HIS SINCERE FRIEND AND FAITHFUL SERVANT
THE AUTHOR.

HISTORY
of
BAMPTON.

The geography of Britain, as of all the modern countries of Europe, has undergone at least two, perhaps in some parts three changes of nomenclature since the beginning of the Christian era. The names of places, which occur in early British history, whilst the ancient Britons still enjoyed independence, were mostly altered or modified by the Romans. The Italian pronunciation still delights to give euphony to the Teutonic and Celtic names of the north, by adding vowels and syllabic terminations to the uncouth consonants of the native idiom.*

After the departure of the Romans, the country, now called England, but at that time Britain, was invaded and conquered by the Saxons. The first leaders of this tribe of barbarians, Hengist and Horsa, landed about the year of our Lord 449, and at the end of a hundred and fifty years, during which there were continual wars between them and the Britons, we find that the names of most of the towns were changed or in some way modified by the new-comers.†

* The British prince, who bravely opposed the invasion of Julius Caesar, is thought to have been called Caswallon in his native tongue; but the classic ears of the Roman invaders softened the term into the more flowing majesty of Cassibellaunus or Cassibelinus.

Cunobelin or Cunobelinus was another British prince of note: he is called Cymbeline by Shakespeare.

Many instances of this change of name occur in history. In some cases, when the sound suits the idioms of both languages, a change of spelling alone takes place. Thus Daubigny, a freebooting captain of the fifteenth century, is called D'Obigni by the polite Italians, whose purses he took from them.

† In proof of this observation, we have several instances in the Ecclesiastical History of Venerable Bede, where two names are given to the same place. Thus in the

In the year 1066, William the Conqueror landed at Hastings, and in the course of his reign nearly all the baronies and great fiefs of the crown changed hands and became the property of the Norman lords, who accompanied the duke. We cannot doubt that many places, of less note or situated in remote districts, received new names according to the fancy or caprice of their new owners.

To these causes may be mainly ascribed the great difficulty, which we have in identifying places, as described in ancient authors, with towns and villages still existing.

There is little doubt that the town of Bampton is one of the oldest in England. The etymology of the name shows it to be of Ancient British origin, unchanged by the tide of Anglo-Saxon invasion, which swept away so much of British laws, customs, and language. The termination -TON, which marks so many names of towns all over the island, is spelt in nearly all old manuscripts -TUNE, and was probably at first pronounced, as the modern Scotch pronounce it, -ROON. A large number of English towns end with the syllable -DON, and this termination also is written -DUN or -DUNE in ancient manuscripts.

It is not to be denied that these terminations -TON and -DON are also Anglo-Saxon forms,* and pass for such among lexicographers: but those who reflect on the numerous names of towns, ending in -DINUM &c. and existing over all Ancient Britain and Gaul, long before the invasion of the Saxons, can hardly avoid the inference that the Celtic language

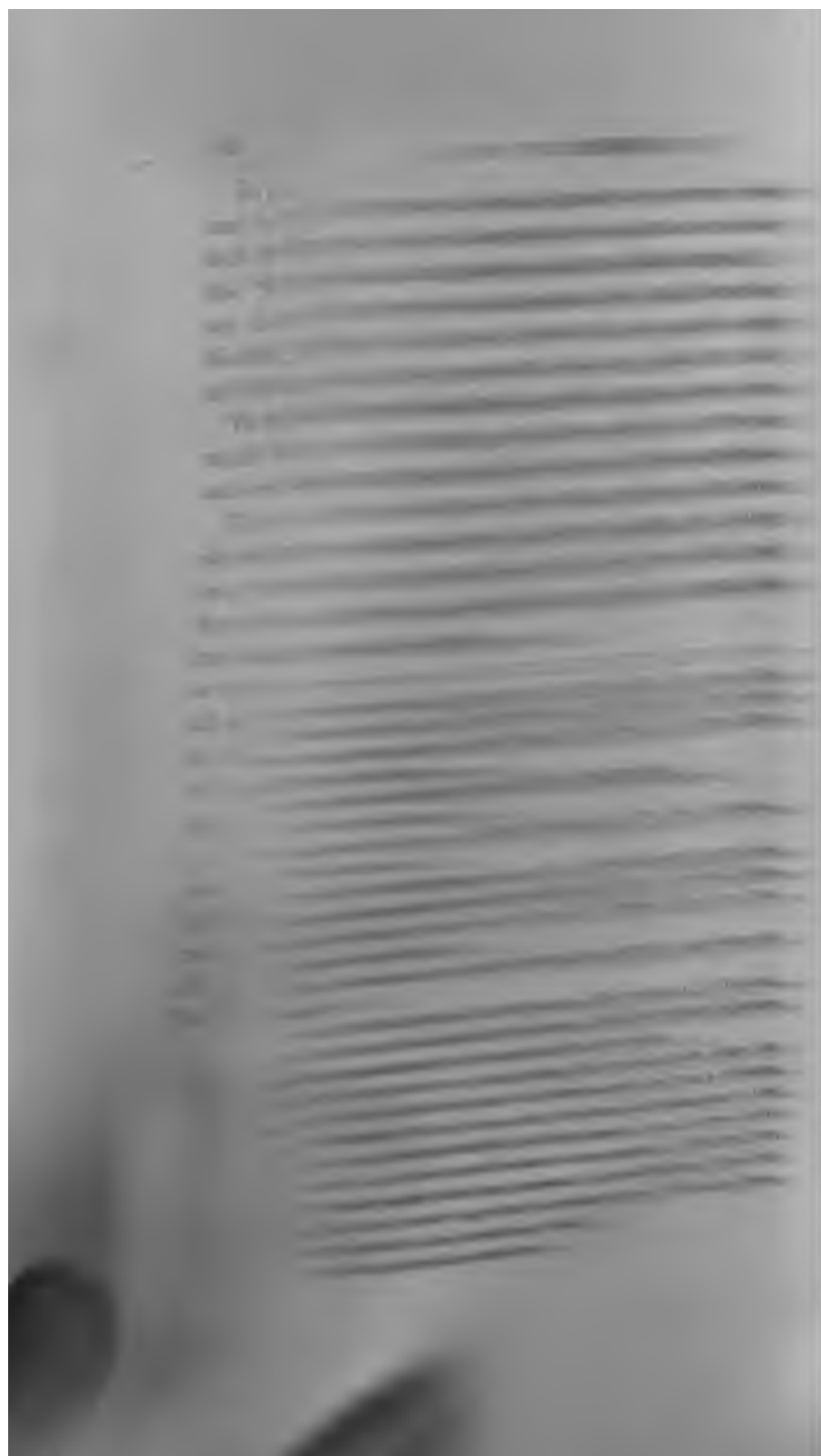
second chapter of the first book, he says, "The blessed Alban suffered death on the 22nd of June, near the city of Verulam, which is now by the English nation called Verlamacestir or Varlingacestir."

* It is the prevailing opinion, that the Anglo-Saxons entirely exterminated the Britons: but this is surely a mistake. The inhabitants of all the south of Britain, in the time of Julius Cæsar, were of Belgic, not of Celtic descent, and it is probable that they were a kindred race to the Anglo-Saxons. If so, the victorious Anglo-Saxons would not exter-

was the source from which flowed those Saxon names of towns ending in -DON and -TON, as was before observed.

If then this theory be correct, — and I think it is hardly susceptible of a doubt, — it remains to enquire what was the primitive signification of these syllables -TON, -DON, -TUNE, -DUNE, -DUNUM, DINUM, &c. from which are derived the modern English words -TOWN and -DOWN. Now the theory that these words are of British or Celtic origin, is much strengthened by the fact that the French language, which, like the English, derives many words from the old Celtic, still retains the word DUNE denoting a HEIGHT OR EMINENCE, generally of an open or exposed character, and similar in appearance to that particular kind of country which we call a DOWN. If therefore we can discover any connection between the idea of a town, as we at present understand the word, and that of a down, we shall have no difficulty in proving that -TON, -TUNE, -DON, -DUNE, -DOWN, and TOWN are different modifications of the same word, and, as far as etymology is concerned, denote the same thing. Such a connection is not difficult to find, when we reflect that the towns of the Ancient Britons were all strongholds, erected on DOWNS or heights, according to the description given of them by Cæsar and other ancient writers.

minate, but amalgamate with the subdued Britons, and their future dialect would show traces of the union. The same view of the subject is taken by Sir Francis Palgrave: "It may be remarked, that the influence of conquest was often counteracted and neutralized by the affinity of the conquering and the conquered nations. The waves which flowed in the same channel usually proceeded from the same source. Thus, in England, the original Belgic population of Lloegria, and their despoilers, and those who subdued the vanquished victors were all brethren: Britons and Anglo-Saxons, Danes and Normans, were all relations however hostile, they were all kinsmen, shedding kindred blood: and even when the races were not so nearly connected, the pervading resemblances of the laws of the earlier ages contributed to lighten the yoke of conquest, and to disguise the innovations which were really effected by the transfer of sovereignty." PALGRAVE'S RISE AND PROGRESS OF THE ANGLO-SAXON COMMONWEALTH. 4to Part 1, London, 1832, p. 35.



It would appear, then, from this etymology, that the name BAMPTON is equivalent to tree-town,† and we are at once led to conjecture that this appellation was given to it from the woody character of the surrounding country. There is, indeed, no doubt that the whole tract of country in which it is situated, like all swampy places frequently subject to inundation, was covered with a large forest, in memory of which the name of "Bampton in the Bush," distinguishing the town from others, its namesakes, has descended even to our own times.‡

§ 2. DESCRIPTION OF BAMPTON IN ITS PRESENT STATE.

Leaving then the etymology of the name as sufficiently ascertained for our present purpose, I shall proceed to describe the parish in its present state, with reference to its position in the county of Oxford, the nature of its soil, and its bearings in regard to other towns and places of greater importance in its vicinity.

A very slight inspection of the map of England will shew that the river called successively the Isis and the Thames, for a length of about 100 miles, forms a boundary between the counties of Oxfordshire and Berkshire. This noble stream leaves Gloucestershire near the small village of Kelmscott and flowing eastwards takes a bend, first towards the north and afterwards back to the south so as to enclose a large projecting part of Berkshire. It then makes a large bend towards the east, and again ascending towards the

† The explanation of Beamdune found in Bosworth's Anglo-Saxon dictionary.

"BEAM-DUNE. BEAM a tree, DUNE a hill.

The name of many places in England, so called, from their elevated position, covered with wood, now corrupted into Bampton. Chr. 614."

‡ Some of the oldest inhabitants of Bampton have informed me that in the days of their fathers, i. e. about the year 1750, there was a large hawthorn tree growing in the middle of the market-place, near which stood an ancient cross formed out of very massive stones. Perhaps, this was the hawthorn with white berries mentioned in the "Catalogue of natural and artificial curiosities &c." given in the Appendix.

north and enclosing in its course all the southern half of Oxfordshire, it quits the county at the market-town of Henley upon Thames.

At the south-western corner of Oxfordshire, and lying on the north side of the river, is the hundred of Bampton, which, besides the market-town and parish of Bampton with its various hamlets, contains the large and ancient towns of Witney and Burford, the township of Grafton, the parishes of Alvescott, Asthall, Asthall Leigh, Black Bourton otherwise called Boreton or Burton Abbat's, Bradwell, Broughton Poggs, Clanfield, Ducklington, Filkins, Harley, Hardwicke, Kelmscott, Kencott, Brize-Norton, Radcot, Standlake, Upton, Signet, Westwell, Yelford, and the chapelry of Holwell. The hundred of Bampton is cut off from the rest of the county by the river Windrush or Wainrus, which, leaving Gloucestershire near Burford, separates the hundred of Bampton from that of Wootton, and passing on to Witney bends towards the south, and, after forming a boundary line between Bampton and Chadlington hundred, falls into the Isis near New Bridge in the parish of Standlake. The parish of Bampton is the most southerly in the hundred to which it gives a name, and is bounded on the south by the river Isis which skirts it for a distance of about 8 miles between the parishes of Standlake on the east and Clanfield on the west. The boundary line, where it quits the river on the east, touches successively on the parish of Standlake, Hardwickfield, Yelford, Ducklington, Curbridge a hamlet in the parish of Witney, Brize-Norton, Blackbourton, and Clanfield, after which it again joins the river on the western side of the parish about a mile short of Radcot bridge.

This large parish is distant about 7 miles SE. by S. from Burford, 6 SW. by W. from Witney, and about

14 miles W. from Oxford in a strait line through the parishes of Standlake and North-moor, across Bablock-hythe ferry, and from thence through the grounds of the Earl of Abingdon and the village of Cumnor, to Oxford. The communication between Bampton and London has always been attended with many difficulties, resulting partly from the nature of the country, * and partly from its not being situated near any of the great high-roads which connect London with the provinces. Whilst on the south or Berkshire side of the river the country rises suddenly into a long chain of hills extending for many miles east and west, and leaving little or no interval between their foot and the water's edge, the country on the side of Oxfordshire expands into a large plain, reaching from Cumnor in the east to beyond Fairford in the west, a distance of from twenty to thirty miles. In this extent of country, bordering on the north bank of the river Isis, some parts of the parish of Bampton are the very lowest, lying, here and there, almost as low as the river's bed, so that an inundation is a matter of frequent occurrence, and in winter many thousand acres are covered with water. The length of Bampton parish is about 6 miles from its most eastern hamlet, Brighthampton, to its western boundary on the Clanfield road. In this direction the country is perfectly flat with hardly the slightest rise or undulation of surface; but its width, which extends from Tadpole bridge in the south to Lew, the most northerly hamlet of Bampton parish, is about 4 miles, of which the last mile and half is a gradual

* John Bedwell, the present bedel of Bampton, informs me that, in his father's time, there was no stoned road of any kind leading from Bampton to the neighbouring towns and villages, and that travellers were in the habit of striking across the common, by which the town was surrounded, and finding their way to Witney, Burford, Oxford or any other place, in the best way they could, as is done to this very day in the deserts of Arabia and Africa.

rise towards a line of low hills running from Hardwicke and Standlake fields in the East, through Yelford and Lew, where it rises to its highest elevation at Lew Barrow, and falls away gradually on all sides between the parishes of Brize-Norton, Black-Boreton and Kencot.

In the midst of the flat bounded on the north by the Lew hills and on the south by the river Isis, is situated the town of Bampton, at about equal distances from the northern and southern boundaries of the parish, but much nearer to its western than to its eastern extremity, being four miles distant from the latter and only one mile from the former.

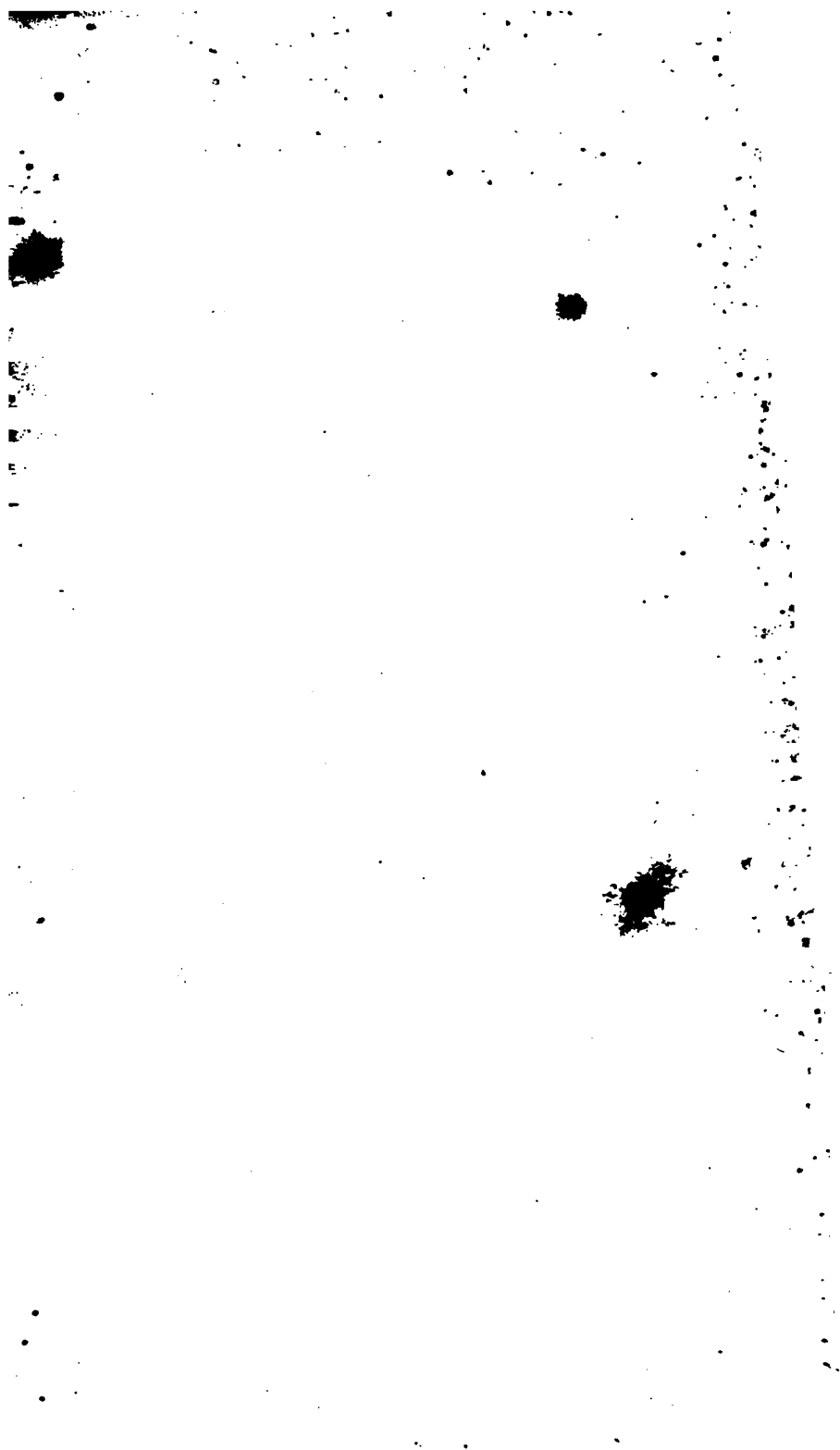
The parish contains, besides the township of Bampton, the villages or hamlets of Weald, Haddon, Lew, Aston, Chimney, Brighthampton, Old Shifford, New Shifford, Cote, and Rushey. Of these hamlets, Lew is sufficiently extensive to become hereafter a parish by itself. Aston is a still more considerable village, and will, in conjunction with Cote, Brighthampton, Chimney, Old and New Shifford, form another separate parish, so that Bampton will retain, of all its former dependencies, nothing but the hamlets of Rushey, Haddon and Weald, the last of which already joins it so as to shew no apparent separation.

Of these villages, and hamlets, some are of the smallest description, being rather localities than places where several families reside. Thus Haddon contains only one farm-house and a few cottages of labourers. Chimney has two farm-houses only, and Rushey, situated on the river at almost the south-western corner of the parish, contains only one house, inhabited by a single family, who have the charge of a lock established there to facilitate the navigation of the river. I may observe that the etymology of the name Rush-eye or "the isle of rushes," is substantiated not only by the nature of the place, but by the

similar forms, "Sheppey" "or the isle of sheep," "Thorney." or the "isle of thorns," "Anglesey," or the "isle of the Angles," and others, which abound in almost all parts of England. But it is not necessary to go to a distance for examples of this ancient Anglo-Saxon mode of forming names of places; for I believe the hamlet of Chimney may possibly derive its name in a similar manner, as if written Chimn-eye, though there is another etymology of this name which will be hereafter mentioned; and Lake Reddy lane, which leads from the Buckland road towards the meadows, seems to retain traces of having originally taken its name from "Reed-eye" or the "isle of reeds." It has been already observed that the name of Bampton signifies the "Tree-town," and, to conclude the list, it may be observed that Aston is written Estune i. e. East-town in Leofric's Charter: Shifford is the "sheep-forð," Bright-hampton is composed of the three words BRIGHT, HAM, and TOWN: Haddon is a word formed out of the old termination -DON before described, though the meaning of its first syllable HAD- seems more uncertain; but the etymology of Lew has hitherto baffled all my enquiries.

§ 3. OF THE CLIMATE, SOIL, AND POPULATION OF BAMPTON PARISH.

The climate of Bampton is considered to be remarkably salubrious, owing in a great measure, to the gravelly nature of the soil. The water also is excellent, except in situations where it is exposed to contamination from decayed vegetable-matter. Fish abounds, not only in the river, but in all the brooks; and the fine flavour which they possess, is thought to be a strong proof of the healthiness of the air. The soil of the northern part of Bampton parish, which lies upon the hill from Yelford to Brize-norton, including the whole of Lew, abounds in clay,



which renders the cultivation of the land more difficult and its profits less ample, but the soil of that portion of the district which lies in the plain, is a continued stratum of gravel covered by a thin surface of vegetable mould. It is tolerably fertile and susceptible of a high degree of cultivation, except where it is exposed to the annual inundation from the river. The total population of Bampton and its villages, according to the last census, was 2804, and the number of acres in the whole parish 12330, of which about 3000 are under the plough.

The following table shews the population and acreage of each hamlet or village separately :

Bampton with Weald	pop.	1694	acr.	4070.
Aston and Cote		727		1870.
Brighthampton		120		410.
Chimney		36		620.
Lew		195		1500.
Shifford		52		860.

The grain mostly cultivated is wheat, and the system of agriculture, though no doubt liable to be regulated, as elsewhere, by the custom of the country, is in a great measure dependent on the taste or discretion of the farmers. This latitude of practice has however been introduced, only since the Inclosure-Act of 1812 ; for, when the principal part of the parish was laid out in common fields, it was necessary that a uniform system should be followed, to ensure an equal share of benefit to all who had a right of common. The course then pursued was the four-year or four-crop course, according to which they sowed wheat the first year, beans the second, and barley the third, after which the land was suffered to lie fallow the fourth year, to recover its strength for the ensuing crop of wheat.

But many other kinds of grain grow with much freedom in all parts of the parish. Oats thrive well ; barley is perhaps the



TOWN HALL.



W.H. Kearney. del.

HIGH STREET

least productive : peas seem to agree with the nature of the soil, and yet they are little cultivated : for they are never plentiful and generally sold at a high price. All kinds of roots and other vegetables are also grown in great abundance : potatoes here, as elsewhere, are the standard produce of the kitchen garden. Jerusalem artichokes are astonishingly productive : I have gathered nearly a peck of them from a single root. The usual kinds of fruit grown in gardens are found in Bampton. Apples grow in all parts of the parish, and from the produce of the orchard belonging to Cote house, Mr. Richard Townsend, the enterprising tenant of that farm, has often made fifteen or twenty hogs-heads of cider in one season.

Apricots, walnuts and pears grow with great luxuriance : strawberries have been said to be ill-adapted to the soil, but this is certainly an error : for there are some gardens where the finest specimens of this fruit have been gathered, and in order to secure a good crop it seems to be only necessary to well moisten the beds in which they grow.

§ 4. OF THE TOWN OF BAMPTON.

The town itself of Bampton consists of three principal streets which meet on the market-place. Here stands a large town-hall, the lower part of which is surrounded by open arches and forms a small but commodious market-house. It is to be wished that this building could be more serviceable to the inhabitants in the use for which it was erected ; but the neighbouring markets of Witney, Faringdon, Burford, and even Oxford at the distance of so many miles, are too attractive to the farmers, and the market of Bampton, which is held on Wednesdays, seldom presents more than a few dealers in eggs, and butter, though large numbers of pigs are sold on that day.

Of the three streets which meet on the market-place, High-

street seems to be the principal : on reaching the extremity of the town towards the South-east, it is separated into two branches, one of which leads to Aston, Shifford, Brighthampton, &c. the other, passing over Fisher's bridge, and two miles further on, over Tadpole bridge, leads to Buckland, Stanford, and the Faringdon Road Station on the Great Western railway. From this station Bampton is about nine miles distant.

Returning to the Town-Hall and taking a northerly direction, we find ourselves in Broad Street, so called from its great breadth : it is a dull street, lined on both sides with low houses, possessing little to attract the notice of the traveller. At the end of Broad Street, separating the town from the country are the grounds and large manor-house of Bampton Deanery, the property and residence of Frederick Whitaker Esquire, J. P. This estate is copy-hold, held in lease of the Dean and chapter of Exeter.

To the west of Broad-Street are two or three lanes or back-streets leading to the Parish-church and burying-ground ; the widest of these is generally called Church Street. The third principal thoroughfare is called Mill-Street, from the mill-stream over which it runs, and passing through Weald between an old house now occupied as a school, sometimes called the manor-house of Bampton, and the ruins of the old castle, now called Ham-court, divides itself, at Cow-leas corner, into two branches, one of which leads to Clanfield, and over Radcot bridge to Faringdon the other leads through the villages of Black-Boreton, Alvescott, Kencott, &c. to Lechlade and Fairford in Gloucestershire.

We again return to the town, and proceed to describe the principal objects of interest which it contains. The first of these is its fine paais-church.

§ 5. OF THE PARISH-CHURCH OF BAMPTON.

The church of Bampton is situated on the north-western side of the town, in the centre of a large church-yard, which, from being removed out of the immediate thoroughfare, and from the number of trees with which it abounds, has a rural and interesting appearance. The church-yard is skirted on three sides by the street: on the north-side of it, is the ancient gate-way leading to the Deanery, next to which is the principal of the three vicarages, destined hereafter, when the portions are separated, to become the residence of the vicar of Bampton Proper. Adjoining to the gardens of the vicarage, on the eastern side, is a respectable house of considerable antiquity, and once in the occupation of a family named Wood, who, from circumstances hereafter to be mentioned, have acquired a species of historic, or at least romantic, notoriety. The house is now the property of Thomas Denton, Esq., one of the lords of the manor of Bampton. To it succeed two rustic cottages; and a small side entrance gateway, leading through the grounds of Bampton Deanery manor-house, completes the northern side of the square in which the parish-church is situated. On the eastern side are two houses only, namely a low cottage and a large house which was formerly one of the vicarages, but has lately been sold with the consent of the bishop to raise money for building another vicarage-house hereafter, when the livings are separated, in the parish of Aston. On the south-side of the church-yard are some ruins and the third vicarage, a roomy and comfortable residence, but with no pretensions to beauty of appearance or architectural ornament. It will hereafter be the residence of the vicar of Lew, until a more convenient situation for a new vicarage shall be obtained within the parish, of which he will have the

charge. The principal approach, leading to the South-porch of the church, near Church Street, is on this side, and the point of view, to a spectator standing near the gate of the old Grammar-school, is picturesque and pleasing. The western side of the Church-yard is occupied by the Deanery-house, lawn, and paddock, which are separated by a wall from the church-yard.

The church itself is a handsome cruciform building, possessing many peculiarities in its architecture and ornaments. It is composed of a nave with north and south isles, two transepts and a chancel. On the eastern side of the north transept is a small chapel, now used as an engine-house: the south transept has two chapels, one on each side of it: that on the eastern side is generally called Hoard's isle, because it was the burial-place of the Hoard family, formerly owners of Cote house. The western isle of the south transept is open to the nave of the church, and is occupied by pews. The service of the church is performed in the nave only: the transepts, from the size of the building and the clumsy galleries which surround the nave and separate it from the rest of the church, are at present of no other use than as passages or thoroughfares to the interior.

Over the junction of the nave with the transepts, stands a massive tower rising about 65 feet from the ground: above which is placed a stately spire, about 150 feet high from the ground, a conspicuous object to all the surrounding country. At the base of the spire, and springing from the corners of the tower, are figures of the four evangelists, giving to the exterior of the church that peculiar appearance which belongs to many of the Oxfordshire churches. The chancel is of ample dimensions and contains on each side old oak seats, carved with foliage and figures, and moveable on hinges, like those of a cathedral-

church or college-chapel ; but there is no record of there having been a larger body or chapter of clergy than its three vicars ; and it is believed that the appellation 'Deanery,' which is applied to the ancient house adjoining to the church-yard, forms no ground for supposing that there was ever a Dean of Bampton : the name is probably derived from some temporary or occasional residence of one of the Deans of Exeter, or perhaps from the mere fact of its having been the property of those dignitaries.

The living of Bampton is divided into three portions, held by three vicars who are termed "portionists." It has, however, rarely happened that three incumbents have been all resident at once : for whilst one or other of the portions has been held by non-resident vicars, having other preferment elsewhere, it has even happened that two of the portions have, at least twice within the memory of man, been held by the same vicar ; nor is it now probable that the parish will ever derive benefit from the presence of its three ecclesiastical superiors : the reforming spirit of the age has directed, through a recent ordinance of the ecclesiastical commission, that, when a new vicar shall be appointed, the three portions shall be separated, and each shall form a distinct parish.

The architecture of the church is of various styles : the most ancient part of the building is to be sought for at the intersection of the chancel and transepts : here is still remaining a low semi-circular ornamental arch with mouldings laid upon a square style of masonry, such as marks the Saxon and Norman period. The four pointed arches, on which the tower rests, are next in antiquity, and the whole of the tower above is certainly earlier than any part of the superstructure of either the nave, chancel, or transepts. The upper part of the tower is occupied by a peal of six fine-toned bells, besides a

smaller specimen, which gives forth an attenuated sound, far inferior to the majestic notes that proceed from its more ponderous neighbours.

Besides these bells the tower contains a large clock, which, when it strikes, is heard to a considerable distance. There are also chimes, which play an ancient carol at the hours of one, five, and nine. The practice of ringing the curfew is also retained at Bampton; at 8 in the evening a bell sends forth its solitary voice, but no fires or candles are now extinguished at the signal, which, like the letter of an obsolete law, still appears on the pages of the statute-book, though its spirit has departed! At 4 in the morning, also, from Lady-day to Michaelmas, the Matins bell is placed on duty: so tenacious are we in some respects of the customs of our forefathers; we ring the curfew at evening to warn the country-man to rest, and in the morning by the matins-bell summon him from thence to his daily labours!

On the floor immediately beneath the bells is a handsome belfry with double niches on every side worked in the thickness of the wall. A square trap-door appears in the centre of the floor, which was formerly open to the church beneath, but has within the last century been boarded up. The floor of the belfry, about 40 feet from the ground, rests on a sort of string-course of ornamental masonry, which is readily seen from the church below, and seems to lead to the inference that an ornamental gallery was formerly in the place of the mean and rotten boarding which now forms the cieling of this portion of the church.

The roof of the whole building is of the Gothic or Tudor period, consisting of flat timber-work covered with heavy lead. The isles are separated from the nave by handsome rows of massive pillars, over which are clerestory windows of the

latest style of Gothic architecture. These were, no doubt, added in more modern times, when the ancient high pitched roof was removed, to replace small circular or quatrefoil windows, which would certainly be more in harmony with the pointed character of all the existing features of the original building.

Amongst the numerous monuments in this church are three brasses in the floor of the chancel, on one of which is engraved the effigy of Robert Holcot, priest, and vicar of this parish, who died on the 25th of October 1500. Ant. à Wood states, that he believes the learned Dominican, named Robert Holcot, of Northampton, who died in 1349, was not connected with Robert Holcot, of Bampton; who, he thought, was one of the family of that name residing in the neighbourhood, at Buckland in Berkshire. On another brass is an effigy of Plymmswood, of whom we shall again speak hereafter, in enumerating those who have successively been vicars of this church. The third effigy is of a lady, Frances Hoard, of whose family numerous memorials exist in this church, affording considerable materials for a biography of their highly respectable house.

On the east side of the north transept, within the chapel before alluded to, is a beautiful recumbent effigy, apparently of the period of king Henry the 4th, but it is unfortunately so mutilated, and wantonly disfigured, that it is impossible to arrive at any satisfactory conclusion as to the personage whom it is intended to commemorate.

Another recumbent effigy, which was intended no doubt to repose within the church, is now placed in the church-yard, nearly under the east window: its mutilated state renders it difficult to say whether it is the effigy of a man or of a woman.

On the wall between this chapel and the chancel is a specimen of enriched sculpture, let into the wall; it represents, with-

in florid Gothic recesses, Christ and the twelve apostles: the carving is however indifferently executed, and the piece is interesting only as affording an example of the style of the fifteenth century. This and many other of the ornamental parts of the church were once richly covered with paint, which, for centuries perhaps, has been concealed from view by the all-enveloping white-wash, by which so many of our old parish churches have been disfigured. This carving was probably intended originally to be a *eredos* to the high-altar, or perhaps it may have been an appendage to one of the altar-tombs, of which *piscinæ* and other vestiges are still to be seen in various parts of the church.

In a manuscript volume, forming part of the Rawlinson Collection in the Bodleian library, and which will be often quoted in this work, I find the following account of arms and painted glass, formerly found in Bampton church, but now, as far as I know, destroyed.

On a stone on the ground in the body of the Church: Barry of 20, an Orle of Martlets, on an escutcheon a maunche impaling 3 coates per pale, viz:

1. a fess petty between 3 martlets. 2. a Buck's or Stag's head having between the hornes a cross crosslett fitch, and in its mouth a barbed arrow——Boulstrode. This stone with the said three coats thereon were laid and putt for John Hastings, esq. who died the XIII of January, an. MDXLI. Upon the said monument also are these armes: 1. a fess petty between 3 martlets, as above, impaling Boulstrode, as above. 2 Boulstrode alone.

In the windows of the Church: 1. Chaworth. 2. Exeter college armes. 3. Delamore quartering. 4. field...a chevron, or, between three castles argent, each having issuing thence a demilion rampant of the second. GALFRIDUS DE CAIO obiit MCCCCLVI. 5. argent, a chevron between three birds (choughs) sable, legged and beaked or. Rad. Freteville. Gules 3 lions passant, or, England. England with a file of five lables, each charged with three fleurs de lize. Gules, cross pattée, or (or argent.) Gules, 3 cheveronells, or. Lord Dawbeny's armies. These three coats were visible on an old tombstone, with a man thereon in armour cut in stone, and seeming very ancient.

In Dr Plott's History of Oxfordshire are the arms of the Trinders, Hordes and Dewes, families much connected with the history of Bampton during the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

On the ends of the old carved seats, at the entrance of the chancel, are some crests or other heraldic devices, but not earlier, perhaps, than the sixteenth century: among these the hunting-horn is conspicuous.

At the back of the galleries, and nearly close to the roof of the isles of the church are some uncommonly fine corbel-heads, proving that the art of sculpture was as extensively studied by our forefathers as that of architecture. The cathedrals and parish-churches, which exist, both in England, and all parts of the continent, exhibit specimens, which for boldness of design and execution, equal many of the productions both of Greece and Rome.

The arms of the see of Exeter occur in the chancel and other parts of the building, and the Norman doorcase leading into the south transept, and the Gothic semi-porch and entrance at the west end of the nave, are specimens worthy of the notice of antiquaries.

The other monuments, not here specified, are not remarkable for originality of design or architectural beauty. As a copy of all the epitaphs taken from the tombs both within and without the church will be found in another part of this volume, it is unnecessary here to repeat in brief what may there be seen in all its details.

I conclude this account of Bampton church with the following remarks of Mr. Skelton, who has devoted several pages, in his valuable "*Antiquities of Oxfordshire*," to a description of this parish, its church and other antiquities.

"The massive tower affords a good specimen of Norman

architecture, but the ornamental belfry clearly demonstrates, that the architect did not contemplate that this part of the tower should be hidden from the spectator, viewing it from the floor of the church. It is much to be lamented, that the internal architectural beauty of many of our finest towers has been destroyed by the mode of bell-ringing, which renders it necessary to have belfries nearer to the bells.

The great antiquity of the church is clearly attested by considerable portions of Norman architecture observable in various parts of the structure. These remains are however so intermingled with architecture of subsequent ages, that in this building alone we have examples of almost every period, from the conquest to the reign of King George the Third. From the character of the spire, and other parts of this building, it appears probable that it was erected about the same time as the neighbouring churches of Witney and Burford."

§ 6. OF THE VICARS AND CHURCH-ESTABLISHMENT OF BAMPTON.

The church of Bampton is open for divine service on Sundays at the hours of 11 and 3, and on Wednesdays and Fridays at 11. To these have of late been added services in the chancel, at 8 in the morning on ordinary days, and at 11 and 4 on Saints-days. The Sunday services are on the whole well attended, but at the weekly service there is but a scanty congregation, owing, no doubt, to the laborious daily occupations of the inhabitants.

The duties of the Church are discharged by the three vicars or their curates, who formerly, when there were only the parish-church of Bampton and the chapel-of-case at Shifford, were on duty each during four months of the year, but, this arrangement not being agreeable



VICARAGE



WEST VIEW OF BAMPTON CHURCH

to one of the former vicars, it was determined in a court of law that the three incumbents should discharge the duties of the parish in turn, each every third week. Since the erection of two additional churches, at Lew and at Aston, the Sunday services have fallen sufficiently heavy on all the three vicars alike, or on those who as curates perform these duties for them.

The revenues of the vicars of Bampton are considerable, and in consequence of circumstances which have happened from time to time, arise from various sources. The original source of revenue were tithes, which were paid by all the inhabitants of the town and the adjoining hamlets. In addition to these, a sum of £ 100 is paid yearly to the vicars by the parish of Clanfield. Similar payments, but much smaller in amount, are made by the parishes of Staudlake and Yelford: the former of these, under the name of "Pension-tithe," pays £ 2. 2s. 6d., the latter pays twenty pence, a year, to the vicars of Bampton. In return for this payment, certain lands in both those parishes are exempt from the payment of tithes to their own clergymen, but I have not been able to discover the origin of the payments.

In the year 1812 large tracts of common land were enclosed in this parish, and by an arrangement then made, three estates, lying in different parts of the parish, were set apart for the vicar in lieu of tithes; so that at present the town of Bampton and the hamlets of Weald and Lew are tithe-free. In addition to these estates, and the money which comes in from Clanfield, Staudlake and Yelford, the hamlets of Aston and Cote, which for tithe-purposes are assessed together, also Brightthampton, Shifford, and Chimney, which are separately assessed, pay certain sums of money yearly, according to the recent act for the commutation of tithes: and from all these

sources, the three portionists of the living of Bampton enjoy a revenue amounting to between fifteen hundred and two thousand a year.*

The other officers, attached to the church establishment of Bampton, are a clerk, sexton, organist, and company of ringers. A bedel, also, although properly a civic functionary, is mostly seen on duty near the sacred edifice, under whose shadow, perhaps, from his advanced years, he already contemplates enjoying his last rest.

The custody of the parish-church of Bampton is in the hands of two church-wardens, one of whom is appointed by the vestry-meeting, the other by the three vicars. One of the gentlemen who now hold this office, has discharged its duties with credit and respectability during the long period of thirty years.

The parish-clerk of Bampton is appointed by the vicars; his salary is £10 a year, besides which he receives certain fees, paid for burials and other services, according to a scale which may be seen on a board suspended in the Vestry-room: the sexton is elected by the parishioners in vestry assembled, and receives £3. 19. a year, besides fees.

The organist receives £24 a year, being the interest, at 4 per cent, of £2703 lent, with other monies, to the Stoken-church Turnpike-trust: besides £2. 19s. the interest, after paying legacy-duty, &c., of £100 bequeathed by Miss Carr.

The office of Organist is at present filled by Miss Whitaker, a lady possessing zeal and ability in the duties which she condescends to undertake, and a member of that highly respectable family resident at Bampton, whose urbanity gives

* The TITHES-APPORTIONMENT of the above-mentioned villages is as follows: — Aston and Cote, £550. — Chimney, £107. 10s. — Old and New Shifford, £127. — Brighthampton, about £120, but the commutation for this village has not yet been effected. —

such attractions to the place in the eyes of all those who visit it, and especially of him who has this opportunity of acknowledging their friendship.

§. 7. ORDER AND SUCCESSION OF THE VICARS OF BAMPTON.

To form a complete list of the vicars of Bampton from the time of Leofric, is a task which the absence of early records renders totally impossible. It is difficult to say what circumstance first led to the threefold division of the vicarage, and I believe the instances of a similar arrangement are extremely few. The institution-books of the diocese of Oxford, and probably of most dioceses, extend back only to A. D. 1548, and there are few notices of vicars of Bampton before that period. The materials, from which I have formed this list of vicars, are principally the following.

1. The institution-books, preserved in the Registrar's office at Oxford.

2. Tomb-stones and monuments still existing in the church.

3. Wood's *Athenæ Oxonienses*.

4. Walker's *Sufferings of the clergy*, fol. London 1714 — a curious work, the second part of which contains a "list of some of the loyal and episcopal clergy, as likewise of the heads of Houses, fellows, scholars, &c. in the two Universities, who were sequestrated, &c. in the late times of the great rebellion."

5. A 4to paper vol. preserved in the Bodleian among Brown Willis's MSS, entitled *Miscellanea of abbats &c. Taxatio 1291 com. Oxon.* *

6. Steele's collections for the county of Oxford, No. 46 among Gough's MSS in the Bodleian Library.

* I copy the following extract concerning Bampton, but leave the expounding of it to wiser heads than my own.

"Archidiaconatus Oxon. Decanatus de Witteney. Ecclesia de Bampton, deducta portione [LXXX Kn.] XX marc. Portio Rectoris de Bampton in eadem V Marc. [Kn]."

7. Grandison's and Stafford's Registers, in the Cathedral Library at Exeter.

8. The Rawlinson MS. in the Bodleian library.

A. D. 1337, April 8, Robert de Bukyngham, rector of Bliston in the diocese of Exeter exchanged with Robert Poddyng vicar of Bampton. [Register of Grandison, Bishop of Exeter, vol. III.]

A. D. 1401, Oct. 28, Thomas Plymmeswode, vicar of Heavitree, was allowed to exchange with John Wydelond vicar of Bampton [Bp. Stafford's Register, vol. II, fol. 55.] See Plymmeswode's epitaph on a brass in the chancel.

A. D. 14 . . Sep. 23, died Thomas Kavi, A. M. vicar of Bampton. [Rawlinson MS, quoting from a brass now destroyed.]

A. D. 1500, Robert Holcot vicar of Bampton died this year, on Oct. 25, as appears by his epitaph on a brass in the chancel.

A. D. 1534, John Dotyn, B. M. vicar of Bampton. [Wood, v. I, p. 686.]

In the Rawlinson MS. I find this notice :

In that vicarage-house, which belonged to Mr. Thomas Cooke, (since to Dr. Phillips, who married his daughter and heir) I find somewhere this written AN. 1456, JOHANNES DOTYN VICARIUS.

Either this date is wrong, and should be 1556, or there was a previous John Dotyn vicar of Bampton.

A. D. 1547, April 22. Edmund Crispin, was instituted to one of the vicarages of Bampton, vacant by the death of John Dyer the last incumbent.

As a specimen of the form of institution, I give the following extract from the 1st Institution-book of the Diocese of Oxford, page 123.

VICARIA
DE
BAMPTON.

Vicesimo tertio die mensis Aprilis, anno Domini 1547, magister Edmundus Cryspin clericus, ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesiæ parochialis de Bampton Oxoniensis diocesis per mortem naturalem Magistri Johannis Dyer

ultimi incumbentis ibidem vacantem ad præsentationem decani et capituli ecclesiæ cathedralis beati Petri Exoniensis patronorum ejusdem admissus fuit, ac vicarius in eadem legitime institutus, et recepta ejus legitima obedientia scriptum erat domino archidiacono Oxon. pro inductione ejusdem.

A. D. 1548, March 7, John Dayle, by the resignation of Edmund Crispin, M. A.

In the entry at page 130 of the 2nd Institution-book the dean and Chapter of Exeter are called *veri et indubitati dictæ vicariæ patroni* the true and undoubted patrons of the said church.

A. D. 1549, Jan. 31, Thomas Yonge, B. C. L. by the resignation of Robert Allington.

A. D. 1558, Feb. 28, Henry Dotynge by the resignation of John Dotynge.

Carved on the screen in Mr. Cooke's Hall,—“1577, HEN. DOTYN VICARIUS. He was M. A., some time fellow of Exeter College, and perhaps nephew to the former. Ascending into a chamber, was cut in stone, in 1664, this, as well as the above-mentioned,—“HEN. DOTYN, VICARIUS 1577.”

On a garden-wall, in cap. [i. e. in capital letters] “1569 VICARI. HENRICUS DOTYN SUCCESSOR JO. DOTYN PATRUI SUI HUNC MURUM SUIS UPTE [should be suo sumptu] PERFECIT”—RAWLINSON MS.

A. D. 1561, Sep. 5, William Levenson, by the death of Walter Wright, D.C.L. The entry in the Institution-book (p. 211.) is as follows :

Willelmus Leveson, clericus, ad vic. perp. eccl. par. de Bampton Oxon. dioc. per mortem naturalem Walteri Wright legum doctoris, et incumb. ibid. jam vacantem, ad collationem reverendissimi patris Matthæi Cantuariensis archiep. Londini admissus et institutus die quinto mensis Septembris A. D. 1561, et regni Elizabethæ nunc reginæ quarto. die Sabbati, videlicet 19 die ejusdem mensis, anno Domini prædicto, virtute mandati dicti Reverendissimi patris in dicta ecclesia parochiali de Bampton cum suis juribus et pertinentiis et in ult. inductus fuit, anno Reginæ Elizabethæ prædicto.

A. D. 1569, Feb. 24 [*secundum computationem ecclesiæ Anglicanæ.*] Thomas Fisher, by the death of Thomas Yonge.

In the Inquisition-book [p. 249] the dean and chapter are again styled veros et indubitatos (ut asserunt,) &c.

A. D. 1580 [about], John Howsen Vic. of Bam. about 1580.
 — John Howsen, D. D. vic. of Brightwell, about 1601 : consec.
 Bishop of Oxford 1618. [Steele, and Wood, v. I. p. 481.] —
 A. D. 1601, Aug. 10.

[Extract from the parish Register of Black-Boreton]. "Mr John Howsen, one of the vicars of Bampton and Elizabeth Floyd of the same parish, were married in this parish church the tenth day of August 1601 by Mr. John King Archdeacon of Nottingham."

A. D. 1581, John Underhill, B. D. also vicar of Witney, and consec. Bp. of Ox. Dec. 8, 1589. [Steele, and Wood, I, 609.]

A. D. 1614, July 17, John Prideaux, D. D. by the death of Henry Walmesley.

A. D. 1617, July 9, Antony Blincowe, Legum Doctor, by the death of Mr. Wormeseye.

A. D. 1620. "Edw. Wilson, B. D. about 1620. Balliofergus, p. 125." [Gough MSS, No. 46.]

In Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. VIII, pt. 3, page 34, is a dispensation, dated Sep. 20, 1628, empowering "Edwardus Wilson, S. T. B.," to hold the vicarage of Bampton together with the rectory of Stonefield.

A. D. 1634, July 5, William Hodges, M. A., by the resignation of John Prideaux.

W. Hodges compounds for first fruits in the 10th year of Charles I, 1634. [B. Willis].

William Hodges was of Exeter College and in 1661 became D. D.; on May 30, 1645, was admitted to the dignity of Archdeacon of Northampton by Dr Prideaux, Bishop of that see whose daughter he married some time before. There seems to be some ground for believing that he lost the vicarage of Bampton on the ordinance concerning pluralities. He was also rector of Ripple in Worcestershire and kept that living during the whole period of the commonwealth. He died in 1676 — [Walker in his account of the Worcestershire clergy].

Steele, quoting from Wood, II, p. 824, and Kennet's Regist. and Chron. says W. Hodges died Aug. 1675 and was buried in the church of Bampton.

A. D. 1648, John Osborne, first portion—Rous Clopton, third portion, compound for first-fruits this year. [B. Willis].

Rous Clopton, about 1640 [Walker, Pt. II, p. 224].

John Osborne M. A., about 1632, ejected 1662. [Wood, II, p. 233.]

A. D. 1658, Rob. Sawyer, 3rd portion, and Samuel Birch, 2nd portion, compounded for first fruits [B. Willis].

Of the second of these gentleman I find the following notice in the Nonconformist's memorial by Dr Calamy, edit. Palmer, 1775, vol. II, p. 302,

The Rev. Samuel Birch, M. A., of Corpus Christi Coll. Oxon, one of the 3 vicars of Bampton, was silenced by the act of uniformity in 1662, although he had formerly not only (to use his own words) utterly refused all compliance with the wickedness of the army under Cromwell, (opposing their most unrighteous and horrid practices) about King and parliament, but had given what assistance he could to the King, when he came to Scotland. He was ejected Aug. 24, 1662, [B. Willis's MS. says July 30] having 7 children. He first removed to Shilton, but was there much molested. In 1666 he was placed by the gentlemen of the county in a mansion-house at Coate in that neighbourhood belonging to ——— Hoard Esq. and they sent their sons to him for education, a service for which he was peculiarly qualified, and he remained there till the time of his death, having his house continually full of young nobility and gentry from many parts of the nation. Fourteen of those that had been his scholars, were in one session of parliament, in the reign of Queen Anne; and some of the chief of her ministers of state were of that number. He died Jan. 22, 1668, and was buried at Shilton.

A. D. 1660, Thomas Cook, B. D. ob. Ap. 6, 1669. He was also archdeacon of Salop. (Steele; and Wood, I, 813.]

A. D. 1662, Dec. 23. Joseph Maynard.

A. D. 1669, Nov. 15, William Burley, M. A., by the resignation of Dr. Edward Cotton.

A. D. 1669, Stephen Phillips, M. A. afterwards D. D., by the death of Tho. Cook. S. Phillips was also archdeacon of Salop, and died 1684 [Steele; and Wood, II, p. 878.]

Dr. Stephen Phillips, vicar of Bampton and archdeacon of Salop, is less known to fame than his son John, the poet, who was born here in 1676. This young man received his grammatical education in Westminster School, from whence he was elected to Christ's Church, Oxford. He was designed for the study of physic, to which he was naturally led by his love of botany, and the weakness of his constitution; for he seldom knew what it was to enjoy a day's health. He was so extremely fond of the Greek and Latin Classics, that he entered into their spirit and way of writing in a manner superior to all who had gone before him. The natural sweetness of his temper and the easy affability, wherewith he treated every person, endeared him to all the gentlemen in the college.

Dr. Aldrich, at that time dean of Christ's Church, was much addicted to smoking tobacco; and one morning, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Smith his chum laid a wager, that, if one of them would go at that moment and call upon the dean, he would find him smoking. Mr. Phillips was the person who took the affirmative side of the question, and when he came to the dean's apartment, the doctor asked him his business? To whom he answered in that simple manner, to which he was accustomed from his infancy, telling the nature of the wager, and that he was come there to have it decided. "Mr. Phillips," said the dean, with the greatest good-nature, "you have lost your wager, for I am not smoking, but filling my pipe."

His poem, entitled "the Splendid Shilling" raised his fame to such a degree, that lord Harcourt employed him to write a poem on the battle of Blenheim, in opposition to that composed by Mr. Addison, on the same subject. This poem was held in much estimation, but his best poem is always considered to be that which he composed on Cyder, and is an excellent imitation of the style of Virgil's Georgics.

Phillips intended to write a poem on the Last Judgement, as we are told by Mr. Smith. His continued ill state of health at last brought on a consumption, which put a period to his life at Hereford, on the 15th of February 1708, in the 32nd year of his age. He was buried in the cathedral of that city, but a monument has been since erected to his memory in Westminster abbey.*

A. D. 1676, Jan. 5, Thomas Snell, S. T. B. by the death of Thomas Hodges.

A. D. 1681. In the Inquisition held this year at Bampton Arthur Bury, D. D. appears as vicar of Bampton, with Dr. Phillips and the Rev. Th. Snell. See APPENDIX, No. xix.

A. D. 1684, Jan. 16 [stylo Anglico,] Thomas Snell, by the death of Stephen Phillips, S. T. P.

A. D. 1707, March 2, John Edmonds, M. A. by the resignation of Arthur Bury, S. T. P.

* New British Traveller, published under the inspection of Geo. Aug. Walpole esq. fol. London, 1784.

A. D. 1714, Feb. 11, Thomas Snell, by the resignation of Thomas Snell senior.

A. D. 1718, April 17, William Stephens, M. A., by the death of Thomas Snell senior.

A. D. 1724, Aug. 18, John Edmonds, M. A. per cessionem Will. Stephens.

Steele has "John Edmonds 1725. William Stevens 1728. Snell 1731." which is quite at variance with the Institution-book. Steele has "William Reynolds M. A. 1742."

A. D. 1743, Aug. 7, William Reynolds, M. A. to the portion formerly in the possession of Stephen Phillips, but lately of Thomas Snell, vacant by the death of John Edmonds.

A. D. 1750, Feb. 28, Elias Taunton, M. A. to the portion formerly in possession of Stephen Phillips, void by the death of William Reynolds, who held two portions [See Reynolds's epitaph.]

A. D. 1750, March 2, John Land, M. A. by the death of William Reynolds.

A. D. 1757, July 23, Joseph Amphlett, D. C. L. by the death of John Land.

A. D. 1758, March 25, Charles Hawtrey the younger, M. A., formerly in possession of Thomas Hodges, vacant by the death of Thomas Snell.

A. D. 1766, May 7, Henry Barton, D. D. to the portion formerly in possession of Stephen Phillips and vacant by the death of Elias Taunton.

A. D. 1782, S. Johnson. See the "Vestry-books."

A. D. 1794, Dec. 23, The Rev.... Marshall vicar of Bampton, as appears by the last feoffment deed of the Shilton estate. [See account of the Shilton charity lands, hereafter.]

A. D. 1796, Geo. Richards, afterward D. D., by the death of Ch. Hawtrey, who held two portions. [See Hawtrey's epitaph.]

A. D. 1799, Thomas Burrow.

A. D. 1819, Hugh Owen M. A. void by the cession of Hugh Owen the last vicar.

A. D. 1824, Oct. 25, Cranley Lancelot Kerby by the cession of George Richards.

A. D. 1828, Feb. 16, John Robinson Winstanley, by the death of Hugh Owen.

A. D. 1837, May 6, Dacres Adams, by the death of Thomas Burrow.

A. D. 1844, June 21, Ralph Barnes, M. A. by the death of John Robinson Winstanley.

This list contains all the names of vicars, that I have been able to collect, and is, I fear, very inaccurate in many particulars, from the deficiency of data, and the numerous palpable errors with which the Oxford Institution books abound.

§ 8. PARISH-REGISTERS NO LONGER IN USE, KEPT IN THE SMALL IRON CHEST.

The registers of the parish of Bampton which are no longer in use are contained in a small iron-chest, deposited in the vestry-room of the parish-church. They consist of 12 volumes in folio and 2 in quarto. These last, together with one of the folios, contain the entries of baptisms, weddings, and burials pertaining to the church of Shifford, and have been kept of late years, with the rest of the Registers, in the mother-church of Bampton. The whole series are ticketed with labels, numbered from 1 to 14, for the convenience of reference. We will briefly describe them in order.

No. 1. A folio volume, of parchment, and in rather a dilapidated condition. Each page is divided in double columns, and the ink is much faded, from age, in several parts of the volume, particularly at the beginning. The first entries refer

to Christenings, and extend from October, A. D. 1538 to August, 1693. These are partly in Latin and partly in English, thus,

“1669, Oct. 9, Mary Rickets, fia [filia] Daniel.

Oct. 28, Anthony et Thomas Wenwan, filii Anthony.” then two leaves of “burials,” from A. D. 1692 to 1694, but not in order: after which are 5 leaves of “Marriages” from Oct. A. D. 1538, to Dec. 24, A. D. 1691. Then occur several leaves of burials and Christenings from 1685 to 1691, entered confusedly; at the end of which is the following sentence:

Homo quilibet est pars communitatis. Every particular person is part of the whole state: this is the true reason, why the king takes so precise an account of the death even of the basest subject, because himselfe and the whole kingdome had interest in him.

As the hand-writing, in which this morsel of political wisdom has been handed down to posterity, is of a more recent date than the latest of the entries contained in the volume, it must have been written since James the Second was expelled by his son-in-law William the Third; when, consequently, the writer had witnessed the example of family-love which the Dutch monarch and his hard-hearted wife set to their subjects in their behaviour towards their dethroned parent.

The rest of the volume is occupied with “Burialls,” from Oct. A. D. 1538, to May 17, 1685, in which the Latin words ‘vidua,’ ‘filius,’ and ‘filia,’ occur frequently, as before.

On the last page of the book is the following curious note:

Whereas the Right Worpll: Sr: Thomas Hord Kght. and his worthy lady, hauing upon vdeniable evidence, made it apeare that they are not in bodily health, and therefore According to the lawe in that ease provided have obtained a Licence to eat flesh during the time of their Indisposition of bodies; But since the Date of Eight dayes allowed by the statute is expired, and they are still in a Sickly Condition. Vpon their request the sayd licence is longer indulged them to dress Flesh and accordingly Registered.

March 18th: 1660.

Will. Standard.

The date of Gualter Castles licence, Clark and Sexto being expired, was also prorogued.

But the good knight seems not long to have enjoyed the indulgence which the Church allowed him, for in the list of burials for the year 1662, we find the following entry: "Jan. 31. Sir Thomas Hord," about one year and nine months after the date of the licence above-mentioned!

No. 2. a folio, also of parchment, and written for the most part in double columns. On the first leaf is the following note:

Dec. 3, 1750. By appointment of ye Revd. Mr. Wm. Reynolds and ye Revd. Mr. Tho: Snell, Edward Skinner was constituted Clerk of the parish of Bampton in ye room of Wm. Andrews deceased.

The first part of the book contains Christenings from Jan. 3, A. D. 1685 to Feb. 25, A. D. 1762, in 30 folios. Then follow Marriages from April 26, A. D. 1685 to Oct. 8, 1753, (occupying folios 1—7)—Baptisms from March 3, A. D. 1762, to Feb. 21, A. D. 1779, (folios 8 to 18) — Burials from Jan. 6, A. D. 1685, to July 15, 1780 (fol. 1 to 31). On the last leaf is the following note:

August 19, 1767. John Wright of Aston having been duly elected to succeed Thomas Fox lately deceased, as Parish Clerk, was approved of by us. J. Amphlett. Vicar. C. Hawtrey. Vicar.
Wm. Cecil, Churchwarden.

In this register—about the middle of the volume,—the name of the officiating Clergyman begins to be annexed to the entries. The first occurs in the Burials, "1758, Oct. 13, Wm. Wiggins. C. H. [for Charles Hawtrey]." The other names that occur are J. Amphlett (1759), C. Poyntz, Cl. (1759).

No. 3. A folio volume, of vellum, written across the whole page and begun at both ends. At the beginning are Burials from May 18, 1782, to Dec. 24, 1812.

At the end are Baptisms from 1779 to 1812.

No. 4. Folio of paper in two parts, the first of which contains, throughout, printed forms for the entry of marriages, and is entitled *A Register-book for marriages &c.* printed for Joseph Fox, &c. M. DCC. LIV. The entries extend from 1754 to 1783.

Between the first and second parts are several entries of "Bannes of marriage," wholly in Manuscript, from 1790 to 1795.

Part 2 is entitled "*A Register-Book for the publication of Bannes of Marriage &c.* MDCCLIV," and contains entries from 1754 to 1789.

No 5. folio—paper—wholly in manuscript—not in columns—each leaf has six three-penny stamps impressed on the outer margin, and each entry is made opposite to one of the stamps. The volume contains Baptisms from Oct. 5, 1783 to Nov. 19, 1786—Burials from Oct. 17, 1783 (at page 39) to Dec. 22, 1786—and Marriages from Oct. 6, 1783 to Nov. 16, 1786.

No 5.—folio—paper—stamped as No 5, contains :

Baptisms from Dec. 27, 1786, to May 29, 1791—Burials from Jan. 13, 1787, to Dec. 20, 1791—and Marriages from Jan. 31, 1787 to Oct. 16, 1791—These entries are much confused, as several instances occur of Baptisms and Burials being entered in the same page.

No 7. a paper pamphlet containing Burials from July 26, 1791 to July 23, 1795.

At the beginning of the book is the following note : "This register for burials bought by J. Shingleton, Oct. 8, 1791, price £1. 4. 0." and yet the volume contains only four leaves, each of which has 20 three-penny stamps impressed upon it !

No 8. paper—folio "*Register of Baptisms,*" printed forms throughout—extending from Jan. 13, 1813 to Dec. 12, 1837. At the beginning of the volume is the Marriage Act, LIInd

of George III, chap. cxlvi, and on the first leaf of the book is the following note in MS.

Memorandum —The origin of the name of MOUNT-OWEN was as follows : Some persons were passing by, when the cottage at the top of the Hill was in building; among whom was an eccentric old shoemaker named John Neal, and he was asked to give it a title. He said it must be called Mount Owen, the Rev. Hugh Owen being vicar of one of the portions of Bampton at that time.

No. 9. "The Register-book for births, Christenings, &c. conformable to an Act of the 23rd of Geo : III, &c.—stamped on the edges, as before, contains—Baptisms from June 19, 1791 to Aug. 7, 1795,—then—Marriages from Dec. 5, 1791 to Nov. 19, 1810. In the beginning of the book is the note: "This book bought by J. Shingleton, June 12, 1791. price £5. 0. 0."

No. 10. "Register-book for marriages &c. contains entries from Jan. 14, 1811 to Dec. 14, 1812, which occupy only four or five leaves, the rest of the volume being blank forms.

No. 11. "Register of marriages &c. from Jan. 18, 1813 to June 20, 1837. The last half of the volume is blank.

No. 12. "Register of marriages in the Chapelry of Shifford &c. from April 22, 1813, to Oct. 27, 1835; occupying only seven or eight leaves: the rest of the volume is blank.

No. 13. A quarto volume, of parchment, containing at the beginning Baptisms in Shifford church from Oct. 23, 1783 to Dec. 27, 1812. At the end of the volume are Burials from Oct. 23, 1783, to Dec. 23, 1811, with the following note annexed.

Jan. 1, 1811. The register of the burials having been irregularly kept during the operation of the tax on bonds, and many of the names having been obliterated by the damp, as many as were legible, were collected together, and entered into this book. We, whose names are undersigned, have carefully collated the above list with the old book, and found it a faithful copy. G. RICHARDS, vicar, Edw. Lindsey, John Towusend, Thomas Bartlett.

The greater part of the volume is blank.

No. 14. A paper volume in quarto, containing, at the beginning, Baptisms, Burials, and Marriages from 1783 to 1787, mixed together in great confusion : in the latter part of the volume, beginning at the end, with the book inverted, are banns of marriage from 1785 to 1811.

The registers, which belong to a later period than the foregoing, are kept by the clerk with the cushions and other furniture of the church in a large deal chest.

§ 9. OF THE VESTRY-BOOKS.

The Vestry-books of the parish, which are no longer in use, are kept in a large iron chest, together with deeds concerning the public charities and other matters, of which we shall speak more fully hereafter. The last vestry-book, still in use, is kept in the deal chest with the registers and church-cushions.

The following account of these books and extracts from their contents may perhaps be amusing to some of my readers who take interest in parochial matters.

No. 1. contains minutes of select vestries from Jan. 28, 1822, to Feb. 27, 1828, concerning paupers, loans made to ditto, and promise to repay, &c.

2. Accounts of paupers.

3. Overseers' book of Bampton and Weald, bought Ap. 29, 1718, contains entries from May, 11, 1718, to 1734.

On the back of the first leaf is the following memorandum.

April 3rd, 1719. It was agreed by us with John Carter that in consideration of clearing the church from sparrows and pigeons, he shall receive from the churchwarden ten shillings at present, and five shillings hereafter yearly, to be paid on Easter Tuesday : Provided that, if at any time hereafter there be just complaint of his neglect to des-

troy them, he shall be content to receive nothing of this yearly stipend.

Tho. Snell, Will. Stephens Vicars—
Jo. Sandelands, Ralph Fowler, Tho. Hamersley, John Carter.

4. Accounts of Charity-lands from 1786 to 1821.

On the first leaf is the following :

The Charity lands lett for three years, entered on Lady-day 1787.
The Moor-close and Lake Reddy close to Mr Shingleton at £12 per ann.

The close (lately occupied per Mr Hawtrey) to B. Green at £10.
The upper close to R. Clarke at £9. 10. 0.

The estate at Appleton at £20.

The three years expired Ap. 5th, 1790, goes on at the Old Rent.
April 29th 1790.

At the end of the book (inverted) is the following :

1802, July 23. At a meeting of the Trustees of the Charity-lands, holden in the vestry-room of the Parish of Bampton, it was resolved;

1. That Mr. Shingleton shall be appointed to receive the rent of the Charities.

2. That Mr Whitaker and Mr. Shingleton be requested to let the Shilton estate upon the best terms, according to their discretion.

3. That this meeting be adjourned to Wednesday the 13th of October next. —G. RICHARDS Vicar, T. Burrow vicar, Edw. Whitaker, Joseph Andrews, Joseph Walker, B. Green, John Fludger Salisbury, Joseph Shingleton.

1802, Oct. 13. At a meeting of the Trustees of the Charity-lands holden in the Vestry-room of the parish of Bampton, present the Rev. Mr Richards, the Rev. Mr Burrow, Mr Andrews senior, Mr Salisbury, Joseph Shingleton, it was resolved that Joseph Shingleton should apply immediately to the present tenants to pay their rents with no abatement, and in case of non-payment, should put it into the hands of Mr. Macey.

That this meeting be adjourned to Wednesday the 10 of Nov. next. G. RICHARDS vicar, T. Burrow, vicar, J. Andrews, senior, John Fludger Salisbury.

5. Overseers' accounts from 1797 to 1806.

6. Do. from 1769 to 1796.

7. Do. from 1734 to 1744. In this book Yelford appears as part of the parish liable to assessment for poor-rates.

8. Do. from 1735 to 1792.

Jan. 27, 1733. At a vestry this day held, and application being made to the said vestry by John Reynolds, of Hagbourn in the county of Berks, blacksmith, for payment of the sum of thirty-four pounds due to him for making a new clock and chimes in the parish church of Bampton, he having performed his said work according to his agreement, and to the satisfaction of this vestry, therefore it is ordered by this vestry, that the church-wardens of this parish for the time being do forthwith pay unto the said John Reynolds the said sum of £34, according to agreement of this vestry for that purpose, except 40 shillings, which is to be left as a caution till the clock is further proved. JOHN DEWE—Richard Coxeter—Richard Sandelands—John Johnson—John Pawling—Richard Hoskins—William Pryor.

Oct. 3, 1741. At a vestry this day here held it was unanimously agreed to allow the following sums to the ringers for ringing on the following days: viz: on the king's birth-day 10s., on the coronation day 10s., on gunpowder treason 15s., on the 29th day of May 10s., and it was further ordered that the church-wardens should give the said money to the ringers to dispose of as they shall think proper. And there were present—J. Dewe—J. Nabbs—W. Lisset—Hen. Church—Ric. Fowler—Rich. Malan—D. Watts—E. Seary—J. Pawlin—E. Aweberry—Sam. Johnson—Jos. Hoskins—Fra. Sims.

Sept. the 29th, 1742. By virtue of a faculty empowering the ministers and church-wardens, bearing date 1725, to dispose of the front-seats in the gallery in the north isle, be it observed, that the right honorable Lord Coventry hath given 10 shillings to the church-wardens for the use of the parish, for a third seat from Mr. Coxeter's gallery in the front above mentioned. WITNESS hereto Tho. Snell, vicar—David Carpenter, churchwarden.

Agreeable to the circumstances above, Thomas Jeeves of Aston, purchased of the churchwarden of the same, one seat next to the door of the....wing,....price....., to be annexed to the house in Lew, late the property of Wm. Jeeves.

Also, Thomas Townsend, of Aston, purchased the second seat from the door, of the churchwarden thereof upon the same terms as above, to be annexed to his dwelling-house. Thomas Snell, vicar—Thomas Bartlett, Churchwarden.

Whereas five seats or places are already purchased in the front gallery in the north isle; there remains but one more to be disposed of, now left to the choice of Edward Collingwood or his landlord, bearing date as above.

Mr Middleton, one of the churchwardens of this parish having had notice to produce the key of the chest in the vestry, in order to inspect the deeds and writings belonging to the free school, and not attending or producing the same; we, whose names are hereunto subscribed, in vestry assembled do hereby order and require the said Mr. Middleton to produce the key or keys of the said chest, in his custody, next Sunday after Evening Service. WITNESS our hands this 15th day of Sept. 1754—Tho. Snell—E. Taunton—Gas. Frederick—War. Lisset—Jas Elly—John Minchin—Peter Hill—John Collingwood—Tho. Fox—Joseph Rogers.

22d Sep. 1754. Ordered by the parishioners now present, that Mr. Gascoigne Frederic have liberty, within the space of one month from this time, to inspect the deeds and writings in the parish chest at all seasonable times, in the presence of the churchwardens, or any two of them, and such other of the parishioners as shall think fit to attend. — THO. SNELL—John Land—E. Taunton—J. Nabbs—J. Dewe—Rich. Sandelands.

March 7, 1756. It is this day agreed by vestry to take a warrant and take Wm. Ellicksanders to justice for going from his family. Mr. Andrew have threatened the preasent Church-wardens with a sute for opening the head of Wm. Carter killed with a waggon; and the preasant inhabitants have agreed to stand the action against the same. THO. SNELL,—&c.

Sep. 28, 1760. It is this day agreed, on account of the number of mad dogs lately appearing in this parish, and of the numbers that are suspected to have been bit, that every person that shall kill his dog and produce it dead before the overseer of the poor, shall receive of the said overseer for the same one shilling; and that a person be likewise appointed at the parish expense to shoot or destroy all such dogs as shall be found at large, after notice given to tie them up, for the space of six weeks, and that the parish shall indemnify such persons, employed as above, for doing the same, and that moreover the person so employed shall have one shilling for every dog that he shall shoot or destroy. E. Taunton—C. Hawtrey—J. Amphlett—R. Sandelands—Hen. Church—William Miller—John Carpenter—Peter Hill—Joseph Andrews.

Jan. 17, 1762. Ordered that no bread be given to any person who does not attend divine service.

Aug. 21, 1763. It is agreed at a vestry this day that Mr. Stevens, attorney at law, be desired to draw up a complaint, to be laid before the bishop, against the Rev. Mr. Charles Hawtrey for refusing to attend the corpses of this parish into the church, and read the service as by the rubric is appointed: and it is agreed likewise, that all expenses attending the same be discharged by the churchwardens. THO. MIDDLETON—Rob. Yeatman—and thirty two other names.

Oct. 23, 1768. Public notice having been given in the church for this purpose, it is agreed, resolved and ordered that a workhouse, capable of employing and lodging sixty persons or more, with proper out-buildings and conveniencies, be forthwith erected and built in Rosemary lane for the reception of the poor of Bampton and Weald, and the trustees of Mrs. Mary Dewe's charity having agreed to pay the expenses of the workmanship of such erections and buildings, and the occupiers of lands in Bampton and Weald having agreed to perform and do the carriage of all necessary materials, it is further agreed, resolved and ordered, that such timber, as will be necessary for such erections and buildings, now standing in the Poor's closes in Lew, Bampton and Weald, be forthwith felled and cut down for that purpose, and the residue of the expense of the other materials, and of

completing the said buildings, and of furnishing the same, be raised by subscription, to which the lords of the manors are requested to contribute, and that such part thereof, as shall not be so raised, be paid out of the poor's rates of Bampton and Weald.—J. AMPHLETT, vicar—&c.

N. B. Many other notices occur further on in the volume concerning the building, leasing, and management of the work-house.

Jan. 1, 1768. In regard to the contagious feavers, which now rages in this parish, we, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do think it necessary, and hereby agree, that the School-house, being now vacant, shall be forthwith taken to put such persons in that are sick, and that proper care be taken of them, and that three or four pairs of blankets be bought for the use of the sick, and that Eliz. Hill, or, if she refuses, another proper person be appointed to nurse and take care of them. GAS. FREDERIC, ——— &c.

April 15, 1770. Ordered that the churchwardens do deliver to Mr Frederick the several deeds and writings in the church-chest, in order that the same be sorted, and that the several charities belonging to the parish may be better known and carried into execution — EDW. CHURCH — &c.

Sept. 8, 1771. Ordered that new feoffments be made of the several charity-lands belonging to this parish, by the heirs of the surviving feoffees or trustees, to new trustees or feoffees, upon trust, for the several purposes, for which the said lands are limited, conveyed or appropriated, the former feoffees or trustees being dead.

Ordered that notice be givenⁿ to the several tenants or occupiers of the charity-lands, belonging to this parish, by the churchwardens and overseers thereof to quit the several lands in their possession at Lady-day next, and that the said lands be let by auction on public notice to be previously given in the church for that purpose.

Ordered that the churchwardens and overseers do deliver into the vestry lists of the several persons, to whom the bread and charity-money, given to be distributed among the poor of the parish, shall be given, in order that the same may be approved of by the vestry before the same be distributed.

Ordered that the King's Bench and Marshalsea money shall not, for the future, be paid out of the rents of the church-land. GAS. FREDERICK — &c.

Oct. 6, 1771. Under this date are lists of trustees chosen to be enfeoffed of the following charity-lands.

The 2 Moor-closes (now in one) and Lake Reddy.
Brookfast furlong close and Moor-closes.
The Appleton estate.
The School-closes.

Close-land and commons at Lew, and the Weald closes and commons.

April 26, 1772. Ordered unanimously that the churchwardens and overseers of Bampton and Weald do enter into articles with Mr. Edw. Herring, late of Witney, for the maintaining the poor of Bampton and Weald for three years from the 11th day of May next, at the yearly sum of £ 170, payable according to the draft of articles and under certain rules and orders, which have been prepared for that purpose and the terms and condition mentioned in the said articles. GAS. FREDERICK — &c.

Oct. 18, 1772. Notice having been given in the church on Sunday last for the churchwardens since the year 1768 to attend this day, and deliver in and pass their accounts, which they have neglected to do, Ordered that, unless they do deliver in and pass their accounts on Sunday next, after evening-service, a prosecution be commenced against such ch-wardens at the charge of the parish. GAS. FREDERICK, &c.

March 23, 1774. Whereas public notice was given on Sunday last for a vestry to be held this day at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, in order to consult about the times, when it will be most convenient for the inhabitants of Bampton to be excused from being called forth to perform their statute-duty, according to the indulgence, given them by an act passed in the last sessions of Parliament for the "Amendment and preservation of the public highways of this kingdom," we, whose names are hereunto subscribed being assembled in vestry for the said purpose, do therefore agree, as well for ourselves as in behalf of the rest of the parishioners of Bampton aforesaid, to take the benefit of the indulgence, of three months given us by the said Act for not performing our statute-duty in. And we do fix and appoint the said 3 months at the times following, viz: that the said inhabitants shall not be called upon to perform such duty between the 8th day of April, and the 8th day of May, which we consider as the seed-month, nor between the 25th day of June and the 25th day of July, which we consider as the hay-harvest-month, nor between the 22nd day of August and the 22nd day of September, which we consider as the corn harvest month. WM. ROBERTS — &c.

April 12, 1775. Whereas it appears from the accounts of Mr. Lisset, treasurer of the charity-lands, belonging to the poor of Bampton and Weald, that, upon the late advance of the rents of the said charity-lands, the quantity of bread to be distributed among the poor of the said parish may be considerably increased: It is hereby ordered that 66 two-penny loaves be weekly distributed amongst the said poor at the usual time after divine service on every Sunday, in manner following, a two-penny loaf every week to each of the poor persons, whose names are mentioned in the list this day signed by us, against whose names the letter W is set, and one two-penny loaf every other week to each of the other poor persons mentioned in this said list: but in case any of the said poor shall neglect to attend divine service on any of the said Sundays, not being hindered by sickness, he or she or they, so absenting themselves, shall forfeit the said bread. J. MANDER — &c.

May 4th, 1777. Whereas John Hanks and James Saunders, Joseph

Orpwood, and William Brooks have taken possession of certain tenements, commons and hereditaments belonging to the parish of Bampton, being churchlands, the rents whereof are to be applied to the repair of the church of Bampton aforesaid, and refuse to deliver up the possession thereof, or to pay any rent for the same; we, trustees of the said premises for the purpose aforesaid, considering it as our duty to recover possession of the said premises, do hereby resolve that prosecutions be immediately commenced against the persons who keep possession of the said premises and that Mr. John Leake, attorney-at-law, be employed to carry on such prosecution. JOHN MANDER, &c.

Eight writings, belonging to Lew estate, was delivered to Mr. Leake, the 11th May, 1777, in order to have a case drawn thereon for the opinion of counsel.

As the practice of cutting and stealing wood, &c. is now become notorious and calls aloud for our most vigorous efforts in suppressing so growing an evil, we, the principal occupiers of the lands in Bampton and Weald, now in Vestry assembled, do order that all persons, who shall wilfully break down any gates, stiles, post, or rails, &c. from any of the inclosed lands within the liberties of Bampton and Weald, shall be punished to the utmost severity of the law. And in order the more easy to detect and bring to justice all persons concerned herein, we do hereby promise a reward of half-a-guinea to any one who shall from time to time, and at all times hereafter, be the means of convicting all such offenders as aforesaid, to be forthwith paid by the overseers, or either of them: and we do further order that all other the expenses attending the detecting and bringing to justice such persons as aforesaid shall be likewise paid by the Overseers and placed in their accounts, as Witness our hands this 9th day of Dec., in the year of our Lord 1781. J. ANDREWS, —Wm. Roberts—&c.

At a vestry held the 2nd day of June, 1782, ordered that five shillings be taken from the ringing-mony, and given to the choir of singers, and that the farther sum of one guinea per year be added to the said sum to be paid by the church-wardens. S. JOHNSON, Vicar—Wm. Church, Curate.—&c.

At the same time agreed that the bell, called the Corfue bell, be rung, as usual, at 8 o'clock in the evening all the year, and at 4 o'clock in the morning during the summer half-year, viz: from Lady-day to Michaelmas.

Ordered in vestry, this 18th day of June 1786, that it shall be decently railed with oak across the chancel near the communion-table. C. HAWTREY, Vicar. Wm. Hawkins, W. Church, Wm. Lissett, Jona. Arnatt, W. King, Wm. Roberts, Edw. Whitaker.

July 11, 1786. A vestry was then held, pursuant to due notice given for that purpose, to resolve on the best mode of letting the church and charity-estates belonging to this parish. Present the Rev. Charles Hawtreay, Jos. Andrews, Wm. Roberts, J. Bantin, Jos. Shingleton, Wm. Lissett, Rob. Yeatman, John Mander.

Resolved that the best mode of letting the said church and charity-estates, in future, will be by public auction, upon leases for a term not exceeding 7 years, with proper covenants for the tenants to manure, keep up the mounds, and upon such other terms as shall be expressed in the conditions of the said auction, to be settled by the majority of the Trustees, previous to the said auction; and that legal notice be given to the several tenants to quit the several lands respectively held by them on or before Lady-day next. C. Hawtrey—&c.

May 17th, 1789. At a vestry this day held for the purpose of choosing a sexton in the room of Benjamin Collingwood deceased: We, the undersigned, do nominate and appoint Mary Collingwood widow of the deceased Benj. Collingwood to hold the office of sexton, during the discretion of the parishioners, and at the usual stipend; and that the said Mary Collingwood shall cause the bell to be rung as usual, viz. at 4 in the morning and 8 in the evening, during the whole year, holidays excepted. Jos. Andrews, &c.

N. B. To be understood at 4 in the morning from Lady-day to Mic. and from Mic. to Lady-day at 5 in the morning.

Near the end of the volume is a list of the overseers of the poor for Bampton and Weald from 1759 to 1794.

I conclude this section with another extract from the latest vestry-book, which, being still in use, is kept in the large wooden chest before-mentioned.

4th January, 1829. At a vestry meeting this day held, pursuant to due notice for taking into consideration and determining upon the necessary measures to be taken for ascertaining in what funds or on what other securities certain charity-mones belonging to the town or parish of Bampton given by the late Mrs. Snell, the Mrs. Fredericks, and Mrs. Croft, are invested, and of the means of restoring or recovering the same and appointing trustees, to carry the directions of the different donors into execution, and also of considering and determining by what means the expenses incurred and to be incurred, in and about the same, should be defrayed, and of determining upon all other matters which might appear necessary, relating to the same charities; the Rev. Thomas Burrow in the chair: RESOLVED that directions be immediately given by the Parish-officers of Bampton and Weald, to Mr. Rose, Attorney at law, to take such steps as may be deemed necessary or expedient to ascertain in what fund or funds, or what other securities, the said moneys are invested, and to institute such proceedings at law or in equity as he shall be directed by the two resident vicars and the churchwardens and overseers or the major part of them, for restoring, replacing, recovering, or securing the said charity-moneys, and appointing Trustees for carrying the directions of the different donors into execution, (such trustees to be nominated at a vestry-meeting, to be called for that purpose): and that all expenses incurred, and to be incurred, in and about the same, or in any-wise relating thereto, to be paid by the said parish-officers out of the poor rate or

rates of the said parish, and that the said parish be repaid the same out of the interest or dividends now in arrear of the said charity-moneys, or out of the principal sum or sums thereof. THOS. BURROW, chairman. J. R. Winstanley, vicar. W. J. Walker. W. Roberts. James Ward. Joseph Hall. James Clack. Rich. Clark, John Knapp.

At this same meeting it is resolved that all deeds, books, parchments, papers, and documents or copies thereof whatsoever and wheresoever, belonging to or in any wise concerning the interests of the parish of Bampton, be forthwith lodged in the parish-chest, and be kept under proper locks and keys, to be part in the custody of the vicars, and part in the keeping of the churchwardens; and that an immediate application be made by the parish-officers to all those, who may have any such documents, as aforesaid, in their possession, to be kind enough to deliver up the same for the said purpose—T. BURROW &c. [as above and moreover] Wm. Andrews. Edward Kerwood.

Feb. 27, 1829. At a general vestry this day holden in the vestry-room, pursuant to due notice, to nominate proper persons to be trustees of the charities given by the late Mrs. Snell, the Mrs. Fredericks and Mrs. Croft, the Rev. Thomas Burrow in the chair—RESOLVED that the vicars for the time being, the churchwardens of Bampton and Weald for the time being, Frederick Whitaker esq., Rev. Wm. Jos. Walker. clerk, Jonathan Arnatt, Wm Andrews, James Ward, and Thomas Green are fit and proper persons to be trustees for the said charities, and they are hereby nominated accordingly. THOS. BURROW, chairman. J. R. Winstanley, vicar. James Ward. Jos. Hall. Wm. Andrews, James Rose.

§ 10. DEEDS IN THE GREAT IRON CHEST.

In the great iron chest, besides the old vestry-books, are contained a large number of deeds relating to the charities of the town, securities for charity-money lent on mortgages, besides other papers, of a more temporary interest, and now of little or no value to the parish. The principal of these papers will be hereafter referred to, under the head of the "Public Charities of Bampton.

§ 11. OF THE POLICE AND CIVIL GOVERNMENT OF THE TOWN.

Not many years ago the lords of the manor of Bampton still continued to hold courts-leet, to appoint constables, and to practise many other feudal customs which were general in the days of our forefathers.

All these customs have now almost entirely disappeared:

the spirit of the nineteenth century has pushed his reforming progress even faster than the railway, and has shown himself in Bampton, where his rival has not yet dared to come! The constables of Bampton are elected no longer by the lords of the manor, but according to the modern Act of Parliament, by which the duties of those officers are now generally regulated.

The town has a further guarantee for its tranquillity in the residence of two magistrates, F. Whitaker, Esq. and the vicar of the second portion, the Rev. Dacres Adams. There is also a board of Inspectors appointed by the vestry-meeting, to take further charge of the property of the inhabitants, and to enlighten their ways by night. Happily the people of Bampton are famous for their honesty and single-mindedness, so that the Inspectors, who meet once a month at the Town-Hall, do not suffer much from the weight of their public duties. Neither do they waste much oil in the service of the inhabitants: four lamps, affixed to the corners of the Market-house, are sufficient to shew by night that there is such a building in existence and how dark besides is all around it! The two watchmen and the bedel,* who act under the orders of the Inspectors, are a terror to all the evil-doers, old and young, in the town and neighbourhood.

§. 12. THE TOWN-HALL.

In the centre of the market-place stands the Town Hall, to which I have before alluded at page 21. This building was erected a few years ago by subscription. The cost of it amounted to about £300: and the lords of the manor agreed with the subscribers to convey the fee-simple of this building to Trustees for the use of the inhabitants for

* The bedel of Bampton is a very ancient officer. He occurs in an instrument of the thirteenth century. See Appendix, No VI.

ever. This arrangement however has not yet been completed, from the deficiency of money to pay the necessary expenses of the conveyance. The large upper-room is used for the meetings of the Magistrates and of the Board of Inspectors, besides other casual purposes, such as for itinerant exhibitions and the performances of public lectures. A small sum is raised from these sources, but hardly sufficient to heat the room and to pay for the windows, which are broken by the boys congregated in the market-place below.

§ 13. THE PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS OF BAMPTON, ST. STEPHEN'S BREAKFAST, CIRCUITING, FAIRS, MORRIS-DANCERS, MUMMERS.

It has often been a subject of regret with those who desire to promote the innocent enjoyments of their fellow-citizens, that the people in general have so few opportunities of meeting together for recreation after their daily labours, or for the healthy games and pastimes in which our fathers so much delighted. Since the days of the Puritans—those stern philosophers, who in avoiding one superstition rushed headlong into its opposite, equally if not still more pernicious—all the sports and recreations of the people have been abolished; or have retired from public view within the doors of those who can afford to pay for the gratification. It might have been anticipated, from the primitive character of Bampton and the adherence of its inhabitants to long established customs, that many ancient practices, elsewhere obsolete, would here have been retained with something denoting their former history. But the list of these amusements and ancient pastimes is very brief: and it is to be feared that the remnants which still exist may ere long entirely disappear.

Of the festivals which formerly were held at Bampton, but have now ceased to exist, and are almost forgotten by all, except the oldest of the inhabitants, the most popular and entertaining were "St. Stephen's Breakfast" and the "Circuiting." The former of these was a remnant of those public rejoicings, which were once so prevalent in England, and were generally accompanied with good eating — a luxury, now-a-days, unfortunately very difficult to be obtained by the greater part of the people of England. These banquetings were, certainly, often attended with much licence and disorder, as the author of "Some Account of the ancient and present state of Shewsbury, [12mo, 1808.]" justly observes, but I cannot refrain from wishing that the people could have more frequent occasions of regaling themselves on such good and wholesome elements as beef and beer, even at the expense of a little indecorum, which, I think, would in these times be hardly carried to such length as to render an Act of Parliament necessary to restrain it. At Shrewsbury, however, in A. D. 1540, which was the 31st of Henry VIII, the inhabitants carried their jokes too far, and an order was made "that the breakfasts, given by the Bayliffs on Christmas-day, between Matyns and hyghe mass, be no longer used for diverse consyderacions and disorder that have come by reason of the same."

It was probably customary for the bayliffs and aldermen [of Shrewsbury] to attend the early matins at two o'clock in the morning of Christmas day in their formalities, in St Mary's or St Chad's church, which on that occasion was splendidly illuminated; from thence they returned to the hall in procession accompanied by many of the inhabitants, when the break-fast here mentioned, consisting of beef, brawn, minced pies and ale, was given, and perhaps the carousing continued until the time of high mass, at which the bailiffs also doubtless were present. This custom of attending the matins on Christmas day gave rise to a religious ceremony, which until these thirty years was universally observed in North Wales. The churches were lighted up according to the opulence of the parish; the people assembled in them at three o'clock in the morning, and after the prayers and a sermon were concluded, they continued

singing psalms till day-light, when they returned home to partake of the accustomed good cheer of the season. Those, who from age or infirmity were prevented attending the church, invariably arose at that early hour, read the prayers in their own houses, and sang the appropriate psalms; this act of devotion was called *PLYGAIN* "the crowing of the cock," our blessed Saviour's birth, as it was superstitiously imagined, having been announced by that animal, and ever after during the holy season the cock was supposed to exert his power throughout the night.

"Some say, that ever, 'gainst that season comes,
Wherein our Saviour's birth is celebrated,
The bird of dawning singeth all night long;
And then they say no spirit walks abroad."

Traces of these religious breakfasts are said to have been still met with in several parishes of England, within the last fifty or sixty years. But the only one of the kind which I have ever heard of, was "St. Stephen's breakfast," held formerly at Bampton, and so called from St. Stephen's day, the 26th of December, on which it was celebrated. From the accounts which have been given me by some of the elderly inhabitants, it appears that those who rented the tithes used to boil a large quantity of beef early on the morning of St. Stephen's day, and send it, smoking hot, to the three vicarages, where it formed the centre of a large circle of farmers and others who were assembled to partake of the breakfast. What other solemnities accompanied this feast, I have not been able to ascertain, but there is no doubt that the rest of the day was devoted to jollification, and that no one, who had been in any way connected with the breakfast, ever conceived a thought of returning to his labour until the next morning.

The next occasion of holiday to the people of Bampton was the ceremony of "circuiting" or "processioning," as it was sometimes termed. This took place in Rogation-week, and its object was, in fact, to identify and maintain the bounds of the parish, by annually circumambulating them. This custom, like that of St. Stephen's breakfast, disappeared after the In-

closure-Act of 1812 : and is therefore unknown, except by tradition, to all the young people of the existing generation. The elderly inhabitants, however, still remember the glories of "circuiting," and the description which they give of its luxuries is sufficiently spicy to make the mouths water of all the younger part of the community who hear it.

The ceremony took place in Rogation-week.

On Monday morning the "circuiters" went in full procession to Clanfield, as far as the tithing of Bampton extended. Here they took breakfast at the house of Mr. Chiswell, who farmed the tithes coming in from the parish of Clanfield.

On Tuesday they visited Haddon, where they were regaled in like manner with good eating and drinking. On their return they went to a place called Heart's Yat on the common, (then unenclosed,) near Lew. Here they took their seats on the banks of a dry ditch in which were placed a bag of bread and a barrel of beer. When these dainties were consumed, the party returned home.

On Wednesday the circuit went to Aston, where they took their meal at "Cote Hatch gate," which opens from the road upon the common, near Cote House.

On all the three days the "Processioners" were accompanied by a woman who had never been married—the last functionary of this description was Ann Edginton—who carried a paddle, and cut deep crosses at certain places, to mark the bounds of the parish, and the course of the procession in future years.

On each day, also, the party were provided with refreshment on their return ; a barrel of beer was distributed among them near the church-yard, and two bags of bread were thrown among the people, who scrambled for the same, and the most humorous scenes were sometimes enacted.

These holidays have now long ago ceased ; those persons

who formerly gave the beer and other provisions, have saved their pockets from the expense, but the same economy has taken away from the poor one more gleam of sun-shine which used to enliven their hard lot of daily and incessant labour!

The principal festival of Bampton is its annual fair, which takes place on the 26th of August, and is a sort of carnival to all the neighbouring villages. This fair is of great antiquity, having been originally held by William de Valence in the early part of the thirteenth century. We learn this fact from an Inquisition made in the reign of Edward I before Jurors, who find upon their oath that the "aforesaid William de Valence hath there [i. e. at Bampton] a market and a FAIR; and that he had the aforesaid tenement by the gift of king Henry [the III^d] father of the king Edward that now is."

The celebrity of Bampton fair arises from two causes, first the large number of horses which are sold there, secondly from the large number of children, servants and other persons, who flock thither from the whole neighbourhood, and enjoy it as much as the Greeks and Romans did their Saturnalia.

A curious tradition has been handed down, connecting Bampton fair with the church-establishment; but as the only notice, which I can find of it, occurs in the Rawlinson MS before mentioned, I give the words extracted from that book, where it occurs under the head of Bampton hundred, without word or comment.

"Fair on the 15th of Aug. and on the next Sunday, whether before or after the said 15th, the Vicar of Ensham preaches a sermon and is paid 13s. 4d. by that vicar of Bampton who has the tithes of Aston that year: this, I believe, was due to the abbat of Einsham formerly."

A second fair was once held at Bampton on the 24th of March, on which day an ox was roasted whole, and sold

in small quantities to all who wished to become purchasers. Of this fair no traces now remain.

Another season of festivity is Whitsuntide, when the Morris-dancers exhibit their saltatory powers for the amusement of the people, and to gather a few shillings for their own private emolument. As these functionaries do nothing but dance, and thoroughly fatigue themselves before night-fall, they may be considered to have earned the hot suppers and mulled ale, which probably terminate the festival, but they have no farther claim to delay the progress of this history.

A third attempt at festivity is made at Christmas, when all the officials of the parish are on the move; bent—as are their betters at all times—upon gain, and with honest and smiling faces claiming their Christmas boxes. A troop of lads, also, as mummers, parade the streets during three or four evenings in succession, endeavouring, but, alas with less success than their great-grand-fathers, to gain admission into the houses of the respectable inhabitants for the performance of their knightly deeds of prowess. These are the only vestiges of ancient public customs now remaining, and little else ever occurs, except the arrival of some stray lecturer, conjuror, juggler, or other performer, to disturb the repose which generally prevails in this little town.

§ 14. THE HAUNTED HOUSE, AND DEATH-WARNING OF THE WOOD FAMILY.

Every village has its legends and tales of horror, which, after having caused awe and terror to a former generation, serve to create laughter and amusement to their posterity,—like a gigantic broad-sword of former days, which, having long been kept as the monument of some knight's prowess in battle,

at length is degraded from its place and becomes a hobby to one of his great-great-grand-children!

Bampton is not without its ghost-stories: the most remarkable of these is that of the Haunted House, in which a family of the name of Wood formerly resided, and in which certain præternatural noises are said to have been heard, forewarning the family, whenever any of its members was about to die. I have already mentioned this house as situated on the North side of the Church, and, though bearing a respectable and rather smart appearance in front,—the effect of modern improvements,—it is supposed to be of considerable antiquity, without which of course no ghost-story obtains permanent credit. It is nearly 200 years ago that the Wood family lived at Bampton, and yet the same ghosts, who disturbed their peace, have been suspected of having occasioned similar annoyance to respectable and credible persons still living.

Let us first hear the account which is given of the Wood family's warning, as it is told by Dr. Plott in his *Natural History of Oxfordshire*, chap. viii, § 3, &c.

"I must add also a relation, as strange as 'tis true, of the family of one Captain Wood, late of BAMPTON, now of Brise-Norton, Captain in the late wars for the King; some whereof before their deaths have had signal warnings given them by a certain knocking,* either at the door without, or on the tables or shelves within, the number of strokes, and the distance between them and the place where, for the most part respecting the circumstances of the persons to die, or their deaths themselves, as will easily be collected from the following relation. The first knocking that was heard, or at least observed, was about a year after the restoration of the king (anno 1661) in the afternoon a little before night, or upon the door, it being then open, as it was apprehended by Mrs. Eleanor Wood, mother to Captain Basil Wood who only heard it, none being then by or about the house but her; at which she was very much disturbed, thinking it boded some ill to her or hers, and within 14 nights after she had news of the death of her son-in-law, Mr. George Smith, who died in London.

* "Three loud and distinct knocks at the bed's head," says Grose, "of a sick person, or at the bed's head or door of any of his relations, is an omen of his death."

For further information concerning this superstition see Brand's *Popular Antiquities*, edited by Sir H. Ellis, vol. III, p. 121.

About three years after that, there were three great knocks given very audibly to all that were then in the house, viz. to the aforesaid Mrs. Eleanor Wood, Mr. Basil Wood, and his wife Mrs. Hester, and some servants, which knocks were so remarkable, that one of the maids came from the well, which was about twenty yards from the place, to see what was the matter; and Mrs. Eleanor Wood, and another maid that was within the house, saw three great pans of lard shake and totter upon a shelf in the milk house, that they were like to fall down. Upon this violent knocking, Mr. Basil Wood and his wife, being then in the Hall, came presently into the milk-house to their mother, where finding her somewhat disturbed and enquiring the reason, she replied, God Almighty only knew the matter; she could tell nothing, but she heard the knocking. Which being within doors, Mr. Basil Wood concluded must be for some of the family at home, that upon the door being for a friend abroad; which accordingly fell out; three of the family, according to the number of the knocks, dying within little more than half a year after, viz. Mrs. Hester Wood, wife of Mr. Basil Wood, a child of Mr. Wood's sister, and Mrs. Eleanor Wood his mother.

About August, 1674, Mr. Basil Wood Junior, son of Basil aforesaid, living at Exeter, heard the same kinds of knocking, at which being disturbed, he wrote word to his father here at Bampton in Oxfordshire, viz. that one Sunday he and his wife, and her sister and his brother did distinctly hear upon a table in their chamber, as they stood by it, two several knocks struck (as it were) with a cudgel, one of them before, and the other after morning-prayer, a little before dinner. Which letter was shown by Mr. Wood Senior, (as the other knockings before the deaths of any that died, were before-hand told) to several neighbouring gentlemen. After which within about 14 days Mrs. Hester Wood, a second wife of Mr. Basil Wood, Senior, and about a quarter of a year after, her father, Mr. Richard Lesset died, both at BAMPTON: since which time they have heard no thing more as yet."

This is the account which Dr. Plott gave concerning the Ghost of the Wood family in his Natural History of Oxfordshire, which was published in A. D. 1671, and the reader will find the subject alluded to in a Catalogue of natural and artificial curiosities, &c. printed in the Appendix to this volume, and copied out of a Manuscript which was probably written some years before the appearance of Dr. Plott's History.

The lovers of the marvellous will rejoice to hear that the operations of the Ghost have not ceased, after the lapse of nearly two hundred years, but, as the family of the Woods have long since been deposited "with all the Capulets" in the

silent tomb, the supernatural agent which formerly announced the approaching death of the members of that family, must be supposed loath to resign his occupation, and to continue his pranks that he may amuse himself with the alarm which he occasions to his lodgers.

Certain it is that within the last twenty years the same house has borne a suspicious character, and often caused the sobriety of its inmates to be called in question for the scampering up and down the stairs and other noises, which have taken place in it. A gentleman, not very far advanced in years, who was occupying it as his residence, has been known to rise from his bed, and to ascend to the upper-story, aroused by a sound of footsteps, as of some one pacing to and fro in the room above: but on his entering, the noise has ceased, and every thing partook of the silence and tranquillity of the night.

The same gentleman, or another—for the most common events of history are liable to doubts and contradictions—rose on another occasion, in the middle of the night, alarmed by a noise in the garden. “Forewarned is half-armed” says the proverb, but the hero of this adventure determined to be wholly armed for this supernatural warfare, and had the precaution to carry with him a great stick—or a sword—for here again report has spread different versions of the story—and when he reached the garden, brave in conscious innocence and fortified by the justice of his cause, he resolved to assume the offensive. At the same instant a ghostly whiteness revealed to him the position which his foe had taken up: he summoned his resolution and raised on high his weapon, which, true to the mark, descended with unerring might, and felled to the ground—a large sun-flower.

About the same time the game-keeper of the Lord of the manor chanced to sleep alone in this house and the adventure, which

happened to him, was fatal — not to the honest yeoman, who is still alive after all his dangers — but to the unoffending gate of the premises, which was riven and shattered to pieces by the bullets which the terrified yet brave retainer discharged, in the dead of night, from his blunderbuss, at the ghost which he said assailed him.

At a later period the owner of this fearful house caused the old roof to be removed, and to be replaced by a new one. This catastrophe was unexpected and fatal to the ghost, — for ghosts like to have a decent house over their heads, as much as Christians — and as nearly a thousand rats were seen scampering off in all directions and no noises have since been heard, it is believed that the supernatural occupier must have taken advantage of so large a marching army, to cover his own retreat and to escape in such good company.

§ 15. BAMPTON CASTLE.

At a short distance to the westward of the Church and Deanery, from which it is separated by the brook that supplies the mill, stand the ruins of Bampton Castle: sometimes called Ham Court, and at present forming two farm houses, which belong to the Earl of Shrewsbury and Thomas Denton esquire, the lords of the manor. These ruins are very scanty and unimportant in their existing state, being nothing more than the gateway, which is now divided by a floor into an upper and lower chamber, and a fragment of wall furnished with loopholes and battlements in the usual manner of such fortresses. Yet notwithstanding its mutilated state, there are two or three interesting portions still existing. The groined roof of the upper chambers, the spiral stone stair-case, and the niches in the walls with narrow slits for the discharge of missiles, are still curious.



RUINS OF CASTLE.



THE DEANERY.

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It has been said that this castle was built by King John, but there is no record of his having been the founder. On the contrary, when the reader shall have perused the narrative of facts which will presently be related in chronological order concerning the manor of Bampton and the famous family de Valence, he will, I have no doubt, agree with me in the opinion that Bampton castle was erected in the year 1314-15, by the famous Aylmer de Valence, Earl of Pembroke. The following observations on Bampton castle are from Skelton's *Antiquities of Oxfordshire*.

"In Wood's MSS in the Ashmolean Museum this castle is stated to have been of a quadrangular form, moated round and to have had towers† at each corner, and a gate-house of tower-like character on the west and east sides. Of these Wood's imperfect representations, engraved by Michael Burghers, and published in Hearne's *Life of Wood*, may afford some idea.

Robert Veysey, of Chimney, near Bampton, had a parchment roll, containing an inquisition concerning the manor of Bampton, in which mention was made of the building of this castle, when and by whom. Dr. Langbaine, sometime provost of Queen's college, Oxon, had a copy of it. After his death Wood saw it in the possession of Dr. Lamplugh, bishop of Exeter.

When Wood visited Bampton castle, on the 7th of Sept. 1664, nearly the whole western front was standing.

In the "*Beauties of England and Wales*," also, I find the following passage concerning the remains of Bampton castle :

† "It had a round tower at each corner, which had an ascent of stone steps; and for speedier conveyances up to the said wall, there were, besides those four towers, a large and high gate-house (tower-like) on the west and east sides, (some say on every side) of which what remained was the west tower." RAWLINSON MS.

There are in this book many curious notices of different places. As Bampton and Witney are much connected, some of my readers may be amused with the following extract about the latter town.

WITNEY DAILY JOURNAL, MAY 1, 1728, WEDNESDAY—"We have the following remarkable account from Witney in Oxfordshire, viz. that some days since, the child of one John Marriott being baptized, there were present no less than five grandmothers, the child's father's father was Godfather, the father's father's mother was one Godmother, and the father's father's mother was the other Godmother, whose name is Ursula Townsend of Staple-Hall in Witney: she is upwards of 100 years old, a hearty woman, and has now above 150 children and grandchildren living."

"They would appear to be not older than the reign of Edward the Second or Third. Some ornaments were evidently bestowed on the interior by Henry the Seventh; for in the ceiling of the principal room now standing, are represented the red and white roses united."

The castle will again occur to notice in connection with the historical events which have happened in or near the town of Bampton.

§ 16. LEGEND OF THE LADY-WELL.

In the time when the Roman Catholic church prevailed throughout Europe, almost every thing was, by reason of some legendary tale, made an object of sanctity or superstition to the people. Wells and fountains, in particular, were objects of reverence to the Christians, as they had been to the Pagans before the Christian Religion was established. The nymph of the "Grotto," of the "River," or of the "Fountain," was displaced, and one of the Saints of the Church, the Holy Virgin, or perhaps even Christ himself, was installed as the tutelary Guardian of the pure element, which ministers so largely to the uses and necessities of mankind.

In the parish of Bampton are two "Holy Wells." Concerning one of these, from which a field beyond Cote House on the road to Shifford is still called "Holy-well field," no legend has been recorded, but the other has been rendered famous by tradition, and its reputation has come down almost to our own times.* It is distant about 200 yards from the northern wall of the castle, and is so thickly covered with bushes, that a stranger could with difficulty find it without a guide. The field, which lies between it and the Castle, seems to have been formerly used as a tilting-area in which the garrison assembled for tournaments and other exhibitions. It is quadrangular, and

* Pilgrimages to Holy Wells were forbidden by the fifth law of Canute king of England.

surrounded by a moat, which is of lesser dimensions than that which protects the Castle itself. In the hollow ground formed by the crumbled sides of this moat, and near its western angle, the ancient well is situated.

The water is still of the most pellucid clearness, sweet to the taste, though much neglected, full of fallen leaves, and, haunted by vermin. The spot is sufficiently secluded to account for the sacred character which it bears and to have called forth those feelings of superstition or enthusiasm, which were common in the Middle Ages. The stone-work, with which the sides of the Fountain are protected from the weight of earth and trees, whose roots penetrate through the crevices, is still in tolerable preservation, though four or five hundred years have probably passed away, since it was erected. The little nook has in fact, under the patronage of "Our Lady of the Well," been hardly touched by the ruthless hands of the spoiler, before whom the massive Castle and its out-works have almost entirely ceased to exist. Tradition informs us that the Fountain first attracted the notice of the neighbouring peasants by the healing nature of its waters. The cattle of the neighbourhood were thought to be more free from disorders than those which fed on other pastures; and in process of time, its virtues were found to apply to the peasants themselves. The piety of the church took a hint from the admiration and credulity of the people, and it began to be credibly reported that Our Lady the Virgin delighted to haunt the place, and perform her personal ablutions in the miraculous Well. When this report was sufficiently propagated, the inhabitants of the adjoining villages flocked thither in large numbers, bringing with them their children and relatives, to be dipped in the Well, as a certain cure for every species of disease. This practice, — which we may be sure was accompanied with the payment of some fee or

compensation to the guardians of the sacred place— continued for many centuries, and almost even to the present day. It is only thirty-three years since the death of an old inhabitant of the town [Elizabeth Skinner] who had known many children, having fits and other diseases, carried many miles to be cured of their complaints, by being immersed in the "Lady-Well."

The present generation, however, have ceased to avail themselves of the medicinal properties of these waters, which have either lost their virtue, or are eclipsed by the superior abilities of the Medical Practitioners to whose charge the health of Bampton is consigned.

§ 17. THE GHOST OF COW-LEAS CORNER.

Many years ago there was a custom, that those who had committed suicide should be buried in a place where four roads meet, with a stake driven through the body. There is no doubt that the effect of this law would be to create horror in ignorant minds, and so to deter them from the crime of self-murder by the ignominious ceremonial which awaited them and the mutilation of their body after death. The origin of this custom is lost in obscurity : it is impossible to say whether the practice arose from the pious wish to place the remains of the deceased under the keeping of the HOLY CROSS, of which the cross-roads formed a kind of rude imitation, or whether, on the other hand, it was done in abomination of the form of the cross. Both these feelings have prevailed at different periods of English history. I shall make no apology for quoting the following passages in support of both these views.

Richard Flecknoe, in his "Ænigmatical Characters," 8vo, Lond. 1665, p. 83, speaking of your "fanatical reformers," says "had they their will, a bird would not fly in the air, with its

wings *across*, a ship with its *cross-yard* sail upon the sea, nor profane tailor sit *cross-legged* on his shop-board, or have *cross-bottoms* to winde his thread upon." This whimsical detestation of the *cross*-form, says the author of the Popular Antiquities, "no doubt, took its rise from the odium at that time against every thing derived from Popery."

The opposite view of the question may be illustrated by Dalrymple, who, in his Travels in Spain, says, that there "not a woman gets into a coach to go a hundred yards, nor a postilion on his horse without crossing themselves. Even the tops of tavern-bills and the directions of letters are marked with Crosses."

But it is unnecessary to multiply instances : for in every country of Europe for the space of fifteen hundred years the greatest respect was paid to every thing which was *cross-like* in its form, and this feeling became at length almost as gross and contemptible as were the endeavours of the Puritans in after-ages to divest themselves of this superstition.

At the distance of about half a mile from the western extremity of the town of Bampton, the road which leads to Clanfield and Faringdon is crossed by another, which, coming up from the hamlet of Weald, continues its course towards the north-west to Alvescott, Kencot, Bradwell, and other villages. At this point, which is sufficiently exposed to the winds and weather to enhance, if it were necessary, the horrors of the ceremony, it was customary formerly to bury, in the dead of night and by torch-light, the bodies of those unhappy beings, who had relieved themselves of the evils, "which they knew of," in this world by "fleeing to others which they knew not of." The spot is, however, known—not by any appellation derived from the burial of the suicide, but by the homely and pastoral designation of "Cow-leas Corner ;" and all memory of the unhallowed corpses

which have there mouldered, would long since have perished, if it were not for the troubled spirits, which once occupied those sinful tabernacles of flesh, but now, rejected from their decayed habitations, and no longer liable to be consigned to the Red Sea and other lock-up-places by the Exorcists, which the Church once provided, they wander forth occasionally upon the world, and, never departing far from their place of burial, alarm the farmers and peasants, who pass late at night near the fearful spot.

There are persons still living, who assert that they have seen supernatural appearances in the neighbourhood of Cow-leas Corner; neither can it be said that such persons have been under the influence of liquor: for a state of inebriety has the effect of multiplying—or at least of doubling—the object which presents itself to the eye; and it is certain that all those who have experienced such visitations have never seen more than one ghost at a time: besides which their veracity has never been questioned and they have all returned in an alarmed state of mind, and often with the loss of a hat, shoe, or some other article of dress, in token of the terror occasioned to them by the supernatural visitor.

About two years ago there lived in Bampton an old man since deceased, who formerly travelled as a higler between Bampton and some of the neighbouring villages. In following the duties of his vocation he passed at all hours of the night by Cow-leas corner, and used to declare, to his dying day, that he had often seen the ghost which haunted that place. On ordinary occasions the apparition kept at a respectful distance from him and having merely shown himself to the higler, vanished in the shape of a calf, sheep, or some other rustic animal; but on one occasion his proceedings were of a more serious nature and assumed rather a diabolical character. The benighted traveller had stop-

ped so late at the fair some miles from home, that he did not reach the place till the clock was on the point of striking the hour of midnight. On reaching Cow-leas corner he attempted to urge his horse to greater speed, when something passed like a flash of lightning rapidly before his eyes. He had no time to observe its form, in consequence of the swiftness of its motion. A loud noise followed, and the ghost, (for such no doubt it was,) glided backwards and forwards with the speed of light and the intangibility of a vapour, through the cart of the astonished higler, as if he would cut it in pieces. It is not surprising that the horse, frightened at these doings, took to his heels, and soon extricated his master from this fearful collision with the beings of another world. The next morning the higler remembered that he had been out in a thunder-storm, but he would never allow that he had been guilty of insobriety, or that he had not been also attacked by the ghost in the formidable manner before described.

But there are persons still alive, who testify that they have seen this same apparition. One of these, a respectable tradesman of the town, about 35 years ago, when he was 15 years old, was returning home between the hours of ten and eleven at night, and had proceeded some distance beyond the usual locality of the ghost, when he suddenly saw before him an old man, as it appeared, dressed in a low-crowned hat and a light-coloured foul-weather great-coat, such as the shepherds of this neighbourhood are known to wear whilst attending on their flocks in winter or at night. Our traveller, taking it for Joseph Hitchcock, a shepherd who was known to wear such a costume, called out and advanced towards him : but as the one advanced, the other receded, so as to keep always the same distance between them. This line of conduct denoted something more than a visitor of pastoral habits, and caused no little fear in the mind of the young

man. But, like Hamlet, he determined to follow and see the last of the adventure : so he continued to dodge his companion until they arrived nearly to the grounds belonging to Bampton Manor-house. Here the old gentleman turned through a gateway into a field on the left hand side of the road, and the young man, looking into the field after him, was astonished to see nothing in it but a calf : — the ghost had entirely vanished ! The catastrophe had such an effect on him, that he made the best of his way home, and for a week or more could hardly recover from the shock which he had received.

§ 18. OF THE TRADE AND OCCUPATION OF THE INHABITANTS.

Tradition—and probably the memory of some of our oldest inhabitants—tells us that Bampton was once as famous as Woodstock, for the manufacture of leathern gloves, gaiters, and other articles fabricated of the same material.

This tradition is strongly supported by the following narrative.

Mr. Robins, an old and respectable inhabitant of Bampton, informs me that, about 20 years ago, he excavated some land lying at the back of his house, for the purpose of forming a garden. In the course of this operation, the labourers discovered as many as 40 or 50 tan-pits, most of which were still full of tan ; there were, also, several bullock's horns, which fell to powder after they had been exposed for some time to the air. This fact proved not only that an extensive tanning-business was carried on at Bampton, but also that perhaps 200 years have elapsed since those tan-pits were blocked up. Thus Time, which has been favourable to the staple manufactures of other places, has almost destroyed that of Bampton : for the glove-trade, formerly so thriving, is now reduced within the narrow-



SEAL FOUND AT ASTON .



ASTON CROSS .

est limits; a single manufacturer of these articles still resides in the town, but he is obliged, in order to secure a maintenance for himself and his family, to travel to a considerable distance round the country, to procure purchasers for the commodity in which he deals.

It may, therefore, briefly be stated that agriculture, — that most necessary of all trades and occupations, — engages the attention of nine-tenths of the population of Bampton; and not without reason, for though nearly all the inhabitants manage to pass through life without wearing gloves, there is not one of them, though too often driven towards such a fate by necessity, which is the Mother of Invention, that has yet acquired the ability to do without bread and cheese.

§ 19. ASTON.

The principal village in the parish of Bampton, next to the town itself, is Aston, situated about two miles between Bampton and Brighthampton. It is a humble and primeval looking place, with nothing, of interest, to attract the notice of the traveller. A few years ago a church was erected here, partly by subscription, and partly by other means. The building is cruciform and commodious, but the architect seems to have been content that his work should not rise greatly above the mediocrity, which is impressed on all the architectural features of the village: it contains no ornamental details whatever. One corner of the north transept is boarded off to form a small vestry-room. On the front of the partition, which parts the little vestry from the church, is the following inscription:

This chapel was erected in the year 1839: it contains 500 sittings, and, in consequence of a grant from the incorporated society for promoting the enlargement, building and repairing of churches and cha-

pels, 350 of that number are hereby declared to be free and unappropriated for ever.

Rev. Cranley Lancelot Kerby	} Ministers.
Rev. Dacres Adams	
Rev. John Robinson Winstanley	

W. Sparrowhawk, chapel-warden.

Another inscription informs us that "the font was presented by the Rev. John Nelson, Sept. 2, 1839." and that "The chapel was consecrated A. D. 1840."

An elderly inhabitant of the place, Mr. Fox, who lately died at the advanced age of 77, gave a donation of £4 per annum out of his hard-earned savings, to aid in the maintenance of this fabric for ever. Another inhabitant, Mr. Monk, also recently deceased, has left by will a sum of money to accumulate until it shall suffice to build a tower or steeple.

Next to the church in importance is the School-house, erected by the British and Foreign School Society. This is a large and commodious room, and is partly used as a place of worship by those inhabitants who are of the Baptist persuasion.

Adjoining to the school is the house of the Baptist minister: the late incumbent, the Rev. B. Wheeler, who was much respected by all his neighbours for the amiable and peaceful tenor of his life, has recently resigned his cure, and been succeeded by the Rev. J. Jackson.

Aston occurs in Leofric's charter, where it is called Est-tune i. e. East-town, but this is all we know about its former history.

Among the illustrations to this volume is a seal bearing the following inscription "SIGILLUM commune domus Sancti Bartholomei de Calceto," and copied from an old print which I found with other loose papers in the Rawlinson MS. As there are no traces of a monastic foundation having existed at Aston, I am inclined to think that the seal belongs to some

other place bearing the same name.

§ 20. OF THE SYSTEM OF FARMING WHICH PREVAILS
AT ASTON AND COTE, RIGHTS OF COMMON, &c.

Within the last century, nearly the whole parish of Bampton consisted of immense commons, which were farmed in a most singular manner, such as, I suppose, formerly prevailed, more or less modified, in many other parts of the kingdom. This system, as has already been noticed, has for many years ceased in Bampton, Weald, and Lew, having been necessarily superseded, at the time of the Inclosure in 1812, by the more simple mode of private occupation which now prevails generally throughout the kingdom: but in the primæval villages of Aston and Coat, where there are hardly a hundred acres of enclosure, the system of farming in common still prevails, and forms a fatal obstacle to the improvement which the land is capable of receiving. As in the course of twenty or thirty years, the few remaining traces of this system will probably disappear, the following account of it, if its intricacy does not puzzle the reader as much as it has already perplexed the writer, may be not unacceptable.

The whole district of Aston and Cote is divided into three parts, 1. Common Field, 2. Common Meadow, and 3. Common Pasture. The Common Field is ploughed and produces wheat, beans, oats, &c. &c. according to the four-course system already described in page 11. The Common Meadow produces grass for hay, and the Common Pasture is used for feeding horses, cows and sheep, but the sheep are fed apart from the horses and cows in a portion of the Common Pasture appropriated to them only. The three divisions contain nearly all the land in the parish, but concerning the number of acres contained in each division, I have not been able to obtain very accurate information. From the details which follow it appears that

there may be about 2000 acres of Common Field, Common Meadow and Common Pasture combined. The whole of this land is supposed to be divided into 64 yard-lands, each of which, reduced to statute measure, would contain about 30 acres, which very nearly confirms the estimate of the total extent of common land, above-mentioned. But it appears that the yard-land is not a fixed measure, but was regulated in great part by the nature of the ground, and varies in different places as much as two or three acres.

It is probable that, in the first instance, the number of yard-lands, 64, corresponded with the number of persons who enjoyed rights of common : but this is now no longer the case ; for by far the larger part of the farmers of Aston have only half or even a quarter of a yard-land, whilst on the other hand some of the more wealthy have as many as ten or eleven yard-lands in their single occupation.

It is also likely that originally each right of common represented a homestead in the "town" of Aston or Coat, and that the right was, in fact, appendant to the homestead. This has however ceased to be the case : for the rights of common are appendant to the person and not the residence of the occupier, and are bought and sold as separate property, by which means it results that persons, resident at Bampton, or even at a greater distance, have rights on Aston and Coat Common.

But the proprietor of a yard-land in Aston and Coat is by no means in the same independent position, as the owner of 30 acres of enclosed and private property. The 30 acres, which form his yard-land, are divided into three parts. In the first place he has about 20 acres of arable land in the Common Field, from which he obtains wheat, beans, and other similar crops ; in the next place he has about 4 or 5 acres in the Common Meadow, which he makes into hay for feeding his cattle in

winter ; and, lastly, on the Common Pasture he has the right of feeding either 8 cows or 4 horses, at discretion, besides feeding 16 sheep on that portion of the Common Pasture which is set apart for them only.

The principle, upon which this three-fold division of the land was founded, is evidently one of great utility in an early state of farming ; and I have no doubt that at first every person enjoying a right of common occupied his ratable portion of all the three kinds of common. But at present there are some tenants who have rights in the Common Field, and not in the Common pasture ; and, vice versa, several occupiers have the right of pasturing a certain number of sheep or cows, who do not possess any portion of arable land in the Common Field.

I have been informed that the total number of persons holding rights of common, of every kind, in Aston and Coat, is between one and two hundred.

As so large a proprietary would be sure to disagree, if they all shared in the government of the community to which they belong, they have, from time immemorial, established among themselves a sort of balanced government, which imitates the British constitution, consisting of the lord of the Manor, who is the king, 4 "grass-stewards" who are a sort of House of Lords, and 16 men called the "Sixteens," * who may fairly be likened to the British House of Commons. But the similarity is not perfect in all its parts : for the Grass-Stewards are generally the four most influential persons of the "Sixteens," and so — enjoying a privilege, which Lord Brougham would envy, if he knew of its existence—they may be said to have a seat in either House of Parliament. The duties of the grass-stewards are to see that the mounds and fences are in good repair, and to se-

* A Classical epithet, reminding us of the "Decemviri" at Rome, the council of "Ten" at Venice, &c., &c.

cure the meadow from the incursion of cattle: the Sixteens are bound to provide at their joint expence four two-year-old bulls every season to run on the Common Pasture. At the end of the season they sell them again for their own benefit, and in the meantime have the privilege of claiming a fee of 1s. 6d. for every cow that feeds on the common during that season. The bulls also are allowed to feed on the common, free and irrespective of the rights of pasture which their owners, the Sixteens, may possess.

The right of pasture in Common begins on the 14th of May and ends on the 14th of November.

The Sixteens and grass-stewards are chosen in turn out of these who have rights of common. Four yard-lands furnish one "Sixteen" every year, and thus in four years, every one of the 64 yard-lands has had its turn of sending members to the Aston House of Commons.

The Sixteens used in former times to hold their meetings at Aston Cross, but of late years the assembly has been adjourned to one of the Public Houses, where no doubt the full strong tap of Mine Host's best October is considered far superior to the possibility of a shower, from which even the sanctity of the Cross would not protect them, in the open air.

It remains to describe the Common Meadow. The principal difference between it and the Common Field, is that in the latter every occupant knows his own land, however small may be the fraction of a yard-land which he possesses. The whole of the Common Field is divided by land-marks, and each strip of ground belongs always to the same farmer, but all the farmers adopt, of necessity, the same mode of cultivation, according to the four-year course, a fourth part is consequently always fallow, unless, as is sometimes done, a portion of it is occasionally planted with vetches to supply feed for the cattle in winter.

In the Common Meadow a more perplexing system prevails, and all the science of the village seems to be necessary to enable the inhabitants to understand and maintain the cumbrous machinery by which this part of their agricultural proceedings is regulated.

The Common Meadow is laid out by boundary-stones into 18 large divisions, technically called "layings-out." These always remain the same, and each laying-out in like manner is divided into four pieces, called "Sets," First Set, Second, Third, and Fourth Set. Now, as the customs of Aston and Coat are based upon the principle of justice and equity between all the commoners, and the Common Meadow is not equally fertile for grass in every part, it becomes desirable to adopt some mode of giving all an equal chance of obtaining the best cuts for their cattle. To effect this, recourse is had to the ballot; and the following mode is practised. From time immemorial there have been sixteen marks established in the village, each of which corresponds with four yard-lands and the whole sixteen consequently represent the 64 yard-lands, into which the common is divided. A certain number of the tenants, consequently, have the same mark, which they always keep, so that every one of them knows his own. The use of these marks is to enable the tenants every year to draw lots for their portions of the Meadow.

When the grass is fit to cut, which will be at different times in different years according to the season; the Grass-Stewards and Sixteens summon the tenants to a general meeting, and the following ceremony takes place. Four of the tenants come forwards, each bearing his mark cut on a piece of wood, as, for example, the "frying-pau," the "hern's foot," the "bow," the "two strokes to the right and one at top," &c. These four marks are thrown into a hat, and a boy, having shaken up the hat, again draws forth the marks. The first-drawn entitles

its owner to have his portion of the Common Meadow in "Set One," the second-drawn, in "Set Two," &c. and thus four of the tenants having obtained their allotments, four others come forwards, and the same process is repeated until all the tenants have received their allotments. As the four Sets are always the same in all the thirteen layings-out of the Common Meadow, it is known before-hand where the good land lies, and it is, I believe, generally understood that Set-One and Set-Four are in all the Layings-out inferior to Sets Two and Three.

The most singular feature of this very intricate system remains to be told. When the lots are all drawn, each man goes, armed with his scythe, and cuts out his mark on the piece of ground which belongs to him, and which, in many cases, lies in so narrow a strip, that he has not width enough to take a full sweep with his scythe, but is obliged to hack down his grass in an inconvenient manner, as he is best able.

Another extraordinary peculiarity of the system is, that a single farmer may have to cut his portion of grass in the Common Meadow from twenty different places, though the tenants frequently accommodate one another by exchanging allotments when it is convenient to two parties to do so.

I conclude this long and tedious description of Aston Common-Law with some extracts from an old book, partly of vellum and partly of paper, which contains the proceedings of the Sixteens for the last 200 years, and is still preserved in the custody of Mr. Richard Townsend, tenant of Cote Farm.

On the first vellum-leaf.

Pretium 6s. — This book given March 24th, 1668, by me Thos. Horde Esqre, Lord of the manor of Aston Bouges and Coat in the parish of Bampton in the county of Oxon. for the benefitt, use and direction of his tennants and the Landholders thereof, and for the Sixteens to register yearly all their orders made at the Crosse of Aston aforesaid, according to their auncient custome and to be kept in safe custody by the Stewards pro tempore.

No person in Aston so proper to keep this book safe and cleane as Richard Alder, and so convenient to wayte on the Sixteens And to write down all their orders so plaine and legible as he; who ought not to suffer the book to be taken or put out of his house to any person or persons but by the order of the Sixteens, who ought to reward him for his care and paynes att the discretion of the said Sixteens, either at every meeting att the Crosse as they make orders, or every halfe yeare or yearly, as they shall thinke fitt. And I trust the Sixteens will meet lovingly and kindly, from time to time, as they are directed by their auncient and laudible custome, to the generall satisfaction as nere as possible can be endeavoured by them that love and friendship, peace and prosperity may continue for many ages to the whole neighbourhood of Aston and Coat; Which hath been and is the hearty wish of Their loving Landlord and Neighbour, Tho: Horde Coat House, 3 April, 1708.

On the second leaf of the book is the following entry :

If any person desires to read what orders have bin made or to satisfie himself concerning the land or about any other matter that is mended or wrott down in his book, he may come to the Steward's House who keeps the book and in the presence of the said steward may peruse it and read therein when he pleases, but the Steward is not to carry or send the book up and down att the towne's pleasure, but to the lord only to set downe orders made att the Crosse in the presence of the stewards or one of them.

If it fall out that all the Sixteens sette not their hands to orders made at the Crosse, then the Steward is to carry the book to those that have not subscribed and to noe other, unlesse the whole towne att any time have occasion to subscribe to any agreement made for the benifit of the towne upon such generall agreement then the Stewards or Steward shall carry the book to those persons who ought to subscribe and have not if the Steward doth otherwise then is hereby directed he shall forfeit two shillings to be given to the poore of the towne of Aston and Coat, att the discretion of the Lord for the time being, and to be impounded for by the Sixteens the Steward or Stewards that keepeth the book shall promise on the 24th of March yearly (being the Lady Eve) att the Crosse before the Sixteens for the payment of the two shillings as above-mentioned if they offend herein being proved by their own confession or wittness of credit that is a reputed honest person.

That the Stewards doe faierly transcribe their orders into this book, and, att the Sixteens' next meeting att the Crosse, to bring the book for them to subscribe to the orders againe that they may continue upon recorde, unlesse the Stewards will carry the book to the Sixteens.

That the Stewards suffer not any person to subscribe or write any matter in this book, nor the Stewards themselves, but what is don att the Crosse, by the consent of the Lord and the Sixteens, unlesse the Lord have a desire to send att any time for the book to insert some thing for the benefit of the towne.

As the matters in this book are divided into so many sheets for the conteineing thereof, this book may serve to register all the affairs of the towne for twenty years.

That the Stewards buy a stick or black-lead pencill and a ruler to

draw and rule the lines in the book, as 'tis now done that all matters may be wrott in order fairely and handsomely for the better and easier understanding of the neighbors that shall peruse the book.

Also put a clean sheet of brown paper between the fresh written leaves that they blott not.

That when this book is finished and noe blank paper left, yet it ought to be carefully kept and preserved in the steward's or some other's custody but rather delivered up to the Lord then in being, that the inhabitants may know what have bin aunciently acted for the good of the towne and a guide for the succeeding Sixteens.

Richard Bersall, due to me

1704 seventeen and 4 pence. 17s. 4d.

On the third leaf:

That noe officer whatever be pd for writing any thing for the towne but what the law gives them or the Sixteens for the former all the kings's officers must doe their duty upon their owne expenses unlesse the Law have appointed them some recompense for the latter the Sixteens have given an office out of which they are to pay their clark or scrivener, if they cannot be their own scrivener.

§ 21. COTE.

At the distance of about half a mile eastward from Aston is the little hamlet of Cote, consisting of about 30 houses. It is in general still more humble and unpretending in its character than Aston; but it contains two objects of interest which merit the attention of the reader, — COTE CHAPEL and COTE HOUSE.

§ 22. COTE CHAPEL.

This chapel is one of the most respectable establishments, founded for the use of Dissenters, in the whole kingdom.

It was built for the denomination of dissenters called Baptists, and is endowed with a house for the minister,—a respectable building, situated, as was before observed, at Aston — and an annual stipend.

The congregation of this chapel came originally from Longworth, where they had a burial-ground, which, however, they did not long possess; for, owing to the neglect of the Trustees, it reverted to the lord of the manor.

The following curious entry is found in the "Church-book" of the Society at Longworth upon the opening of the burial-ground.

The Lord, who was pleased in these last days to gather his people out from amongst the people of this world, hath been pleased, according to his abundant goodness, to gather together some of his poor children, and to plant them in and about Longworth, where we have enjoyed many mercies and privileges, which he hath bestowed upon his people; and amongst the many mercies this is not the least, that in this church he hath given some increase in number of us, his witnesses, against those vain wayes of this world which they receive by tradition from their fathers; as chiefly baptizing of infants (as they call it), and touching their faith and persuasions about the place where they bury their dead, which two things, (as also many others) the Lord hath separated us from them in.

And taking these things into consideration, we, who were led by that gude word of Prophecy, as in baptism, so also in burying our dead in a place apart from the people of this world, hereupon our births and our burials were neither of them registered by the Parish Register, so we judged it expedient to take care in this matter, whereupon we appointed and prepared this book, wherein we have inserted, on one side births, and the other burials.

The earliest entry in this book is in 1647; and, like the Society of Friends, commonly called Quakers, they avoided using the names of the days of the week and the month: thus;

John Williams was buried on the 8th of the 4th month, 1675.

The meeting-house was first registered, as the law required, in the month of September, 1703, the ground having been given by Mr. John Williams of Aston.

The ministers of this chapel since its foundation have been the following:

1. Rev. Joseph Collet,* from July, 1703 to 1741.
2. Rev. Joseph Stenett, Brother of the Rev. Samuel Stenett, D. D. from March 17, 1742 to 1772.
3. Rev. Tho. Dunscombe, M. A., from June, 1772 to 1798.†

* Author of a treatise on Divine Providence, and son of Joseph Collett, gentleman of Cote, who lived in a house on the site of the present "Pond-House," which descended to Mr. John Williams, late of Shifford, who married his grand-daughter.

† At this time the number of members who received the Communion in this chapel is registered 102.

4. Rev. Joseph Stennett, M. A. (son of Dr. Stennett.)
5. Rev. James Bicheno, † M. A.
6. Rev. Richard Pryce.
7. Rev. Benjamin Wheeler, appointed in 1840.
8. Rev. J. Jackson, the present minister, appointed in 1848.

The incumbent of this chapel serves also at a small meeting-house in Bampton, in Aston School-room and elsewhere, on particular occasions.

§ 23. COTE HOUSE,

This interesting mansion was probably built in the reign of Elizabeth or James I. It has two projecting wings with gabled roofs, like nearly all the houses erected at the same period, but the wings are of unequal height, which somewhat detracts from the grandeur of its appearance. The centre of the building forms a long hall, into which the door, which is in the middle of the principal front, opens without screen or vestibule: At the upper end of the hall is the drawing room, a wainscotted apartment, beyond which is an ancient staircase of heavy oak leading to the state bed-room, which was once ornamented with oak carving, but this has lately been removed by the present owner, H. Hippisley, esq. to embellish his mansion at Lambourn Place, an ancient residence, which has lately been enlarged in the Elizabethan style of architecture, near Hungerford. When Mr. Skelton wrote his work on the Antiquities of Oxfordshire, there were some interesting shields of arms on painted glass in one of the principal apartments. "Amongst these," says Mr. Skelton, "I noticed the arms of Blount, with others of families of consequence, who had probably resided or

† Author of some works on Prophecy.



COTE HOUSE .



SHEFFORD CHURCH .

been entertained here, in former times." These coats of arms, twenty-four in number, are now at Lambourn-Place, where they form conspicuous ornaments in the large window on the staircase and in the windows which surround the inner court of that beautiful mansion. The arms are all of the sixteenth century, and many of them are surrounded by the garter, bearing the motto *HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE*. Three of them bear the names of Blunte, Lee and Hanbury, and one of them has the Greek motto *heos haimatos antipelargon*,—a mistake, I suppose, of some unlearned painter for *antipalaion*,—"struggling even to blood."

There are also other objects of interest which have been removed from Cote House to Lambourn-Place: amongst others I noticed two chairs, as old as the reign of King Charles, one of them ornamented with a ducal coronet.

The screen, also, which now stands at the extremity of the hall at Lambourn-Place, is a most beautiful relic of the Elizabethan style, and has been introduced into its present position with no greater alteration than the removal of one or two rows of pannels, by which its breadth has been adjusted to the dimensions of the apartment in which it stands.

But the *spolia opima*, in the opinion of some persons, from Cote House, are five paintings, the merit of which must be evident to the most negligent and most inexperienced beholder. These are, 1. A portrait of Sir Thos. Horde, painted by Sir Godfrey Kneller, 2. A female, by the same artist, 3. The last Mr. Horde, by Beach. 4. Miss Horde, daughter of the last Mr. Horde, and who bequeathed the Cote estate to the Rev. H. Hippisley, father of H. Hippisley esq. the present owner—this painting is by Gainsborough or Beach, probably the latter, 5. A boy, by Sir Peter Lilly.

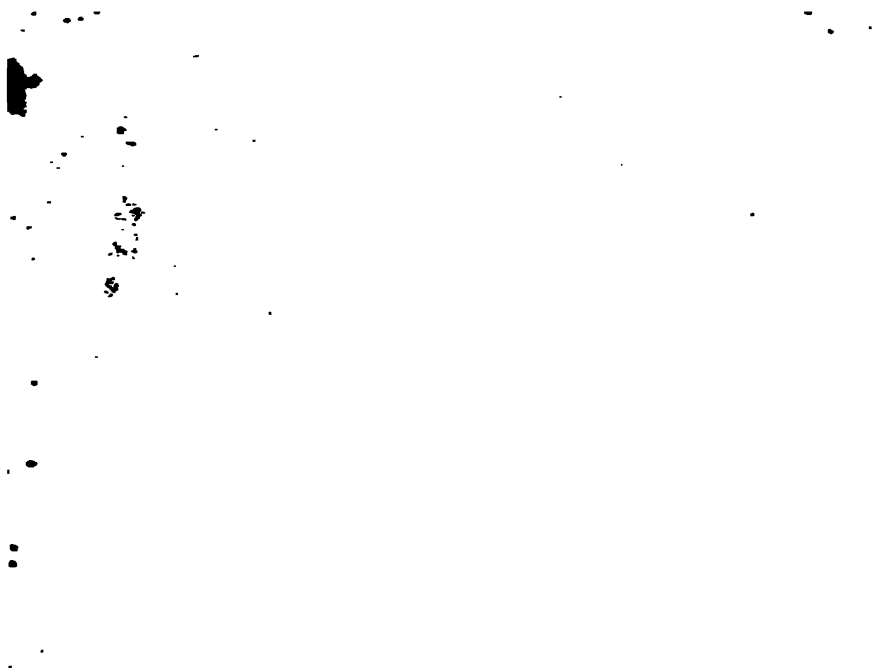
§ 24. SHIFFORD.

Two miles from Aston and one mile from Cote House is Shifford, formerly, as it is said, a place of much consequence ; but we find no confirmation of this in ancient records. The account which will further on be laid before the reader of its having been the place where Alfred once held a parliament, furnishes no ground for supposing that it was more than a village or small town ; for in those turbulent times, a parliament was as rude a body of men as can well be conceived, and their parliament-house was more likely to be a wild heath than a Westminster Hall. Still there is no doubt that Shifford was once a more important place than it is now, and perhaps contained several houses and streets. At present there is nothing but its solitary little church,* 4 or 5 cottages, and Shifford farm-house, the property of the Harcourt family, and the residence of their tenant, Mr. Peter Williams, a gentleman known far and near for his hospitality and honest independence of character, to which the writer of these pages is happy to be able to pay this humble tribute.

Nearly the whole of Shifford district—or parish, as it is sometimes § called — consists of common fields, almost wholly destitute of timber, and lying close upon the river which for many weeks in every year overflows its banks and deluges a large quantity of land. Further information concerning Shifford, its ancient history, its manor and other particulars, will be given hereafter in the Chronological arrangement of past events which have happened in this parish.

* The old church of Shifford, which was very ancient, fell down in the year 1772 : that which now occupies its place, is a small building of the most plain, unadorned character. It was not completed till some years after, when the Rev. Samuel Johnson, one of the vicars of Bampton, officiated in it.

§ It has been suggested to me, since the publication of the first edition of this work, that Shifford was perhaps originally a separate parish and that its connection with Bampton has merged its former independence. If so, the union of the two parishes would more correctly be expressed " Bampton cum Shifford."





LEW CHURCH.



HOUSE AT LEW THE PROPERTY
OF T. DENTON ESQ^R

§ 25. CHIMNEY.

Chimney consists of two farms only, the property of E. M. Atkins esq., of Kingston-Lyle in the county of Berks. It was once the seat of the Veseys, one of whom founded the grammar-school. There were formerly a fine manor-house and chapel at Chimney, but it is now some years since they have been pulled down and the materials removed. There is nothing remaining, of interest, in the place; which, indeed, in the winter-season can only be approached, owing to the inundation from the river, by means of a large farm-horse, kept by Mr. Pinnock, the occupier of one of the farms, for the accommodation of his friends and visitors.

§ 26. BRIGHTHAMPTON.

This is a small dependency of Bampton situated on the extreme verge of the parish, and forming a continuous street with the houses in the neighbouring parish of Stanlake. It contains no interesting object, of any kind.

§ 27. LEW.

The small village of Lew, destined hereafter to become a separate parish, is situated about 2 miles on the road to Witney, from which it is distant about 3 miles and a half. Its pretty church was built by subscription in the year 1842. There is, also, a small chapel belonging to the religious society of Baptists resident at Witney. This building was designed by the pious members of that persuasion, before Lew church was thought of, to provide for the spiritual wants of the poor inhabitants, who could not attend at the parish-church of Bampton, but, for want of funds or from other causes, was not erected until Lew church was finished.

The principal landed proprietors of Lew, are Thomas Denton, esq., lord of two-thirds of the manor of Bampton, and I. Close, esq., of Clapham.

§ 28. OF THE PUBLIC CHARITIES OF BAMPTON.

Few towns of equal size possess so many charitable bequests and foundations as Bampton; and, as is generally the case with charities, they appear to have been greatly abused, or at all events neglected, and not to have been fully applied to the purposes, for which they were intended. But in the present age a better spirit is afloat, and it is hoped that all the testamentary bequests of pious and charitable individuals, long since deceased, may speedily be placed on such a footing as to be productive of the most good to the parish for whose use they were intended.

A large number of deeds concerning these charities are preserved in the great iron-chest which is kept in the vestry under four locks, but, without other means of information, these papers are too imperfect to explain satisfactorily the subjects to which they refer.

It appears that there was formerly a large board suspended in the church, on which all or most of the Bampton charities were inscribed.

This board has long since disappeared; but fortunately a copy of it is found in the Rawlinson manuscript, already so often quoted. The account of it given in that book is as follows.

"On the north wall of the Church is a large wooden tablet, and on it are these following benefactors mentioned.

George Tompson, gent., gave six pounds a year for ever.

Leonard Willmot, of Clanfield, gen., deceased, gave to the poor of Bampton forty shillings a year for ever.

Doctor William Osborn gave one hundred pounds for the use of the poor.

Mr. Robert Vaisey gave two hundred pounds to the use of the School.

Mr. John Palmer gave two hundred pounds, one hundred to the use of the School, the other to the poor.
 Mr. Henry Coxeter gave ten pounds to the use of the School.
 Mr. Bartholomew Coxeter gave thirty pounds to the use of the poor.
 Mr. Robert Vaisey gave thirty pounds to the use of the poore.
 John Tull, baker, gave ten pounds to the use of the poor.
 Thomas Williar, draper, gave ten pounds to the use of the poor.
 John Butt gave ten pounds to the use of the poor.
 Doctor Edward Cotten gave the use of fifty pounds to the use of the parish of Bampton, to be disposed of to those that frequent the Church and receive the Sacrament.
 Mr. Richard Coxeter gave the use of ten pounds towards the placing out of poor children of Bampton and Weald.
 Toby Sadler, draper, gave fifty pounds to be given in bread to the poor of Bampton and Weald.
 Richard Blagrove gave the use of ten pounds to be given in bread to the poor of Bampton and Weald.
 Henry Clanfield gave the use of ten pounds to the poor of Bampton and Weald.
 Mr. Richard Dew gave to the use of the School fifty pounds.
 Mr. John Palmer gave the use of fifty pounds to the poor of Aston and Coat.
 Mr. Robert Dale gave the use of five pounds to the poor of Aston and Coat.
 Mr. John Moulden of Coat gave the use of five pounds to the poor of Aston and Coat.
 Mr. Thomas Cox of Stanford gave the use of five nobles to the poor of Coate.
 Madam Dorothy Loder, formerly wife of Mr. John Hancks of this parish, gave £300 to the use of the poor of Bampton and Weald.
 Julian Walter, of Appleton in the county of Berks, gave £18 per annum to be disposed of in bread to the poor of Bampton.
 Thomas Hall and Anne his wife, gave the sum of £5 each to be disposed of in bread to widowers and widows of Bampton and Weald.

All good benefactors.

It appears, from the same Rawlinson MS., that there was a similar tablet in Shifford Church: the extract is as follows:

“On a velom in a frame fixed to the north of the Church.

Mr. William Farr gave to the poore of Shifford five pounds and the use of it to be paid them every year upon St. Thomas's day for ever. He departed this life the 36th of November 1691. His text was in Revelations the 14th and the 13th verse: “And I heard a voice from Heaven, saying unto me: Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth, yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours and their works do follow them.”

These lists are, however, of little other use in the present day, than as a record of the pious benefactors to whom the pa-

rich is indebted for the above named sums. A great part of the money has been invested in land and other securities, so that the charities of Bampton, as they are at present, would be almost unintelligible even to the donors themselves.

The list of Bampton charities in their present state, is as follows :

1. The free grammar-school, founded by R. Veysey.
2. Thompson's gift.
3. Wilmot's gift.
4. Appleton estate, given by Julian Walter.
5. Shilton estate.
6. Hoard's gift.
7. The Church-lands.
8. Money lent to the Stokenchurch turnpike-trust.
9. Legacies bequeathed by Mrs Susanna Frederick, Mrs Elizabeth Snell, Mrs Mary Frederick, and Mrs Mary Crofts.
10. Carter's legacy.
11. Upper Moor close and Brookfast Furlong close.
12. Lower Moor close and Lake-Reddy close.
13. National School.
14. Miss Carr's bequest.
15. Monk's legacies to the church and poor of Aston.
16. Fox's gift to the church of Aston.
17. Miscellaneous—lost legacies, &c.

1. *The free Grammar-School.* — The Free Grammar-School was founded, in the year 1670, by Robert Vaisey, or Vesey, esq. of Chimney, who left £300 for the instruction of all boys living in the parish and dependencies of Bampton, and in the small adjoining parish of Yelford. This bequest was augmented to £400 by John Palmer, who, by will dated Oct. 23, 1650, gave an additional sum of £100 for the use of the grammar-school. See the copy of the board in the church and the Report of the Charity-Commissioners, page 341. The inquisi-

tions and other papers printed in the Appendix to this volume will inform the reader of many particulars concerning this foundation, which it is here unnecessary to repeat.

The Trustees, still alive, according to the last feoffment, dated June 21, 1831, are F. Whitaker esq., Rev. C. L. Kerby, vicar of Bampton, Rev. W. J. Walker of Southrop, Mr. Tho. Green, Mr. James Ward, Mr. W. Andrews, Mr. William Pryor of Aston, Mr. Richard Townsend of Coate, and Mr. J. Bateman. Their duty is to take charge of and maintain the freehold property which belongs to the foundation, consisting of the School-house, a picturesque building situated near the church, a small cottage adjoining, and three fields situated near Fisher's bridge.

The income derived from the rents, amounts to about £28 per annum, not including the School-house. Other monies will probably be attached to the School, when certain arrangements in the court of Chancery shall be brought to completion. The master is appointed by the three vicars of Bampton, and the heir of the founder, and in case of an equality of votes between the four, then the decision shall remain on that side to which the heir of the founder shall have given his vote.

The present master is the Rev. H. S. Templar but there are no pupils, and it is a subject of regret to the inhabitants that this foundation is without any benefit whatever to the town. It appears, however, that this evil is not so irremediable as in the case of many other grammar-Schools, for the foundation is unfettered by any conditions which might perpetuate a course of study not adapted to the wants of the people. The original statutes seem now to be lost, but they were apparently extant at the time when the Rawlinson MS. was written: for I find therein the following extract:

"School-master Leonard Fell, a poor child, of Queen's College in Oxford, who according to the statutes ought not to be a beneficed person."

2. *Thomson's gift*—Mr. George Thompson, whose tomb is still seen on the east side of the South transept—a recumbent figure under a pediment supported by two fluted columns. — by his last will, dated June 6, 1st James I, A. D. 1603, left a rent-charge of £6 a year issuing out of certain lands situated in the parish of Brizenorton, (now given, in sixpences,) to the poor of Bampton and Weald. The extract from his will, preserved in the great chest, is as follows :

ITEM I will and bequeath to the poor people of Bampton, Lew, and Weald, Marian Startupp and her heirs, Agnes Startupp the daughter of Humphry Startupp and her heirs, Agnes Startupp the daughter of Wm. Startupp and her heirs, Joane Tomson my wife during her natural life and Jane Gurlie my sister's daughter and her heir, ALL that my lease of two yard-land, with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging with divers other particulars, contained in the same lease, set, lying and being in the parish of Brisenorton in the county of Oxon, granted unto me and my assigns by Mr. Edward Yate, late of Buckland, for a term of 2000 years to the behoof of them, and every of them, as in particular, and more at large in this my present will, is expressed and set down. And for the better performance and more assurance whereof my will is that the feoffees of Bampton, Haddon, Aston, Lew, and Weald, for the time being, shall have the custody or keeping of the said lease in trust, to and for the use of all the parties prenominate, that the said lease in no case should be sold, alienated or altered from the true meaning of this my will... then gives several parts of the premises in the said lease to Marian Startupp, Agnes Startupp, and Agnes paying several yearly sums to his executors; and to Joane his wife during her natural life, and Jeane Gurlie and her heirs during the term, all other the contents, as houses, lands and enclosures, commons, rents, profits, and appurtenances whatsoever, not before given and bequeathed in the main lease comprised and contained, they paying yearly during the whole term to the poor people of Bampton, Lew, and Weald, six pounds to be given and distributed to them by the discretion of my overseers and the two Churchwardens of Bampton, Haddon, Weald, and Lew, for the time being, at two several times of the year, viz. Whit-sunday, and the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, by equal portions, and makes Joan his wife and Jane Gurlie his executrixes. Witnesses Rob. Joy, clerk, Edward Jones, and William Hanks.

Proved at Oxford, 4th Feb., 1603. *

3. *Wilmot's gift*—See Mr. Hudson's account of this bequest, printed in the appendix. The abuse, there mentioned, has been remedied since his time: the £2 a year are now expended in keeping up a stock of blankets, which are lent to the poor during the winter.

* Mr. Thompson resided where Kerwood's yard (once called D'oyles' yard) now stands.

4. *Appleton estate, given by Julian Walter.*—The Appleton estate consists of a house, called the Thames-House, and certain lands in the parish of Appleton, containing about 30 acres, more or less, bequeathed originally by Julian Walter, who, having no children, executed his will on May 1, 1656, by which he gave the aforesaid estate to Trustees for

“the good and benefit of the poor of the town of Bampton in the co. of Oxon, and to the impotent people of the parish of Bampton aforesaid, equally to be divided between them, which premises so devised for and to the use of the poor of the said parish shall every Sunday in the year for ever after the Sermons be ended in the said parish-church, in the forenoon, be distributed in wheaten bread by the churchwardens or overseers of the poor of the parish aforesaid to the poor and impotent people inhabiting in the parish, in such sort and manner as the bread is given at Appleton Provided nevertheless that, if the said several churchwardens for the time being of the said parish, or any of them shall fail at any time hereafter in the due execution of this my will, according to the true intent and meaning hereof, that then the use of the poor of the parish to cease, but it shall or may be lawful for the Justices of Peace of the Sessions to be holden for the county of Oxon and Berks, to take the profits, to them so devised for the use of the said poor, and employ the same to the enlargement of the causeway at New-Bridge in length, and for the maintainance of it for ever, &c.”

In the Report of the Commissioners Julian Walter is described as a woman, and no papers, that have yet fallen in my way, afford the least help towards clearing up this very ridiculous doubt.

Within a recent period this property has been vested in trustees by a decree of the commissioners of the Public Charities. The last enfeoffment, dated Sep. 25, 1826, vested the trusteeship in the hands of *Jonathan Arnatt*, William Joseph Walker, Frederick Whitaker, Robert Bullen, *George Bryan Shingleton*, *Bernard Green*, William Roberts and John Bateman, with the proviso that when four trustees should be dead a fresh feoffment should be executed. Three of them are already deceased.

The rents amount to £36 a year, received by the churchwardens, who retain 8s. for a dinner, on Holy Thursday, 8s. bread-

money (as it is termed) for the parishes of Ensham, Witney and Standlake, and £2. 8s. land-tax : the rest is given in bread to the poor. After Michaelmas, 1848, the rent will be £42.

5. *Shilton estate*.— [For an account of this charity see Mr. Hudson's pamphlet, in the appendix.] The last feoffment is dated June 13, 1831, and conveys the trust to the *Rev. J. R. Winstanley, D. D.*, *Rev. C. L. Kerby*, *James Ward*, *Frederick Whitaker*, *Rev. W. J. Walker*, of Southrop in the co. of Gloucester, *Jonathan Arnal*, *Tho. Green*, *Wm. Andrews*, *Wm. Pryor*, *Wm. Sparrowhawk*, and *Richard Townsend*, on trust to let the lands at the best annual rent, the rent thereof to

"be forthwith disposed of and applied to and for the placing out and binding of such and so many poor children yearly to some good trades in London or the suburbs thereof and not elsewhere, as the said *Tho. Burrow*, *J. R. Winstanley*, and *C. L. Kerby*, and their successors, vicars of Bam. aforesd. for the time being, or the major part of them shall from time to time think fit and appoint."

The rents now produce £30 per annum, but, when the present lease is expired, they will be raised to £40. The Report of the Charity-commissioners states that this land was purchased with the bequests of *Dorothy Loder*, who, by will dated March 24, 1701, gave £300, *Dr. Cotten*, who gave £50, and *Richard Coxeter*, who by will dated Nov. 8, 1681, bequeathed £40 ; all these sums to be vested in land, and the proceeds to be employed in apprenticing children of Bampton to various trades ; but of late years a large portion of the rents has been used to pay the salaries of the Master and Mistress to the National School. [See appendix, No. XIX.]

6. *Hoard's gift*.— This charity will be best understood by the perusal of the following printed paper, formerly in circulation.

"AN ABSTRACT OF THE GIFTS OF THOMAS HORDE ESQ. for the benefit of his Neighbours in Aston and Coate, in the County of Oxford.

N. B. The Trustees are to deduct all their charges out of the rents of the Lands charged.

Mr. Horde, by deed dated the sixth day of August in the year 1709, did give certain Lands in Aston and Coate to Trustees, in trust

to raise the yearly sum of Forty Pounds for ever, free from taxes, whereof the yearly sum of Twenty-four pounds is to be disposed for the benefit of the poor Prisoners in the Castle in Oxford, in such manner as in the same deed is expressed, and the remaining Sixteen Pounds per annum is to be bestowed in the manner following, Viz: The Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor of Aston and Coate are, with Ten Pounds thereof, to provide yearly ten woollen coats, and ten pair of Stockings for Men, and ten coarse woollen waistcoats, and ten canvas shifts and ten pair of stockings for Women, and to deliver them to the Men and Women upon the feast of Saint Michael the Arch-angel in every year.—The Men and Women are to inhabit within the Villages of Aston and Coate, and are to be elected by the Lord of the manor of Aston and the sixteen persons commonly called the sixteens or the major part of them.

The Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, upon the feast of St. Michael in every year, are to give an account to the Lord of the manor how they have disposed of the Ten Pounds that year, and what remains of it is to be distributed, by the same Churchwardens and Overseers, amongst the poor men and women who shall receive the clothes that year.

The remaining Six Pounds per annum is to be paid yearly, by the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, to some man or woman, inhabiting in Aston, being of a sober life, to be named by the Lord of the manor and the sixteens, or the major part of them; who, for that money is to teach twenty such poor children, inhabiting in Aston and Coate, to be elected by the Lord of the manor and the sixteens or the major part of them, to read English until they can perfectly read the Bible; —But if the Master or Mistress shall teach but fifteen such children, then he or she shall receive but Five Pounds per annum; and if but ten such children, then but Four Pounds per annum, and if but five such children, then but Three Pounds per annum. And the residue of the said yearly sum, in every such year, is to be distributed amongst such poor Widows in Aston and Coate, as the Lord of the manor and the sixteens or the major part of them shall appoint. If no man or woman, capable to teach English, shall inhabit in Aston, then any man or woman, inhabiting in Coate, is to be elected in the manner and for the purpose aforesaid.

All the children are to be taught the Church Catechism, and shall, in the hearing of the Master or Mistress, pray every morning at their coming to school, and every evening at their going from thence; and shall be chastised for swearing, lying, or other misbehaviour.

The Lord of the manor, and the Minister of Shifford, and the churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of Aston and Coate or the major part of them (as often as they please) are to examine the behaviour of the Master or Mistress, and to displace him or her for such cause as they shall judge reasonable, and to elect another in the room of the person so displaced.

Abstracts are to be printed of these Trusts, for the use of the Trustees and others—one of them is to remain in Shifford church and another with the Lord of the manor—And as often as seven of the Trust-

tees die, the survivors are to renew the trust, and make up twelve Trustees, of whom the President of Trinity College, the Recorder of Oxford, and the owner of Mr. Horde's mansion-house in Coate for the time being, are always to be three.

Mr. Horde's Heir-at-Law for the time being is to have the overplus of the rent, which shall remain more than Forty Pounds per annum. and if the rents fall short and will not yield that sum, then other lands of Mr. Horde's in Eaton Hastings in the County of Berks are charged to make up the deficiency, and while Mr. Horde's heirs duly pay the yearly sum, they are to have the possession of the lands charged with it.

THE NAMES OF THE TRUSTEES—Dr. Dobson, of Trin. Coll. Oxf. Dr. Brathwait, Warden of New College. Dr. Edwards, Principal of Jesus College. Dr. Paynter Rector of Exeter College. Dr. Dunstar, Warden of Wadham college. Mr Allen Hord. William Wright, esq. Recorder of Oxford. Jonathan Castleman, esq. Alderman White. Alderman Pinnel. Mr. Mathew Pinnel. Bampton, Oxon. printed by W. Holloway, MDCCCXIII.

7. *Church-lands.* Under this name are included certain fields, which belong to the parish, and the rents of which are received by the church-wardens and help to pay the expenses of the church, thereby rendering the church-rates so much lighter upon the inhabitants. The fields are four in number : One at Lew containing about 3 acres, at present let to Mr. Jeeves, — One in Clanfield lane, containing 4a. 1r. 37p. let to Mr. Perkins — Another in Clanfield lane, containing 3r. 7p. let to Mrs. Clare of Clanfield— One near the road to Tadpole, containing 1a. 2r. 36p. and let to Mr. Fisher.

The rents of these fields at present amount to £24. 15s. 0d. There is no trust for three of them ; but for the first the last feoffment was made by Mr. J. Banting, the only surviving trustee, June 21, 1831, to eight of the inhabitants, on conditions similar to those before mentioned.

A paper containing an account of the Bampton charities, and printed by Bailey, 116 Chancery Lane, some years ago, says that the house standing in the midst of the Lew close, some land in the Common-field and five cow-commons ; besides four houses, and an acre of land in Weald, also formed part of the church-lands. I have heard it hinted that certain acres of

land awarded in lieu of the cow-commons and land in the common, might still be recovered for the use of the parish.

8. *Money lent to the Stokenchurch turnpike-trust.* — About thirty years ago, large subscriptions were collected by the Rev. Dr. Richards one of the vicars of Bampton, amounting finally, with other contributions, to £1300. This sum has been since lent to the trustees of the Stokenchurch turnpike-road: the vicars conjointly with the two churchwardens are trustees for the money. The interest of £600 at 4 per cent, viz. £24 a year, is paid to the organist: £20 is devoted to the use of the National School of Bampton, and £8 is given to the poor in bed-linen.

9. *Legacies bequeathed by Mrs. Susanna Frederick, &c.* — Mrs. Susanna Frederick, by her last will, dated April 29, 1789, bequeathed the interest of £200 stock in the South-sea annuities [afterwards, by codicil, dated Nov. 9, 1793, increased to £300] for the use of the Sunday-schools. Her executor was the late Edward Whitaker esquire.

Mrs. Elizabeth Snell, by her last will, dated June 29, 1787, left the sum of £200 in the hands of Edward Whitaker, Wm Roberts, and the Rev. Fras. Smith as trustees. This money was afterwards placed out in purchasing £268, 3 per cent consols.

Also the same Mrs Elizabeth Snell, and Mrs. Susanna Frederick, in conjunction with Mrs. Mary Frederick, in the year 1784, purchased £400 Stock in the 4 per cent Bank Annuities, and vested it in the names of William Hawkins, John Mander, William Roberts and Edward Whitaker, for the use of the Master of the Grammar-School, on condition that he should teach Reading, Writing, English and Arithmetic to all such boys, not exceeding the number of 10, as should for that purpose be nominated and appointed, after the decease of the said donors, by the said Trustees and their successors &c. In 1829 the amount of Stock was £418. 17s. 6d.

Mrs. Mary Crofts, by will dated on or about March 4, 1717,

left £100 to be laid out in land, and the interest to be applied to the use of the Master of the Free School, for instructing 12 poor boys and girls of the town of Bampton in the English tongue, until they shall be able to read well in the Bible; but, if the School-master refuses or neglects to do so, then the profits shall be applied to the use of such Schoolmaster or Schoolmistress as by the appointment of her executor John Frederick, and his heirs, should yearly teach the said children in the manner aforesaid. The value of this Stock, in 1829, was £135. 7s. 3d.

Concerning all these gifts there is a deed of declaration, dated Dec. 31, 1792, setting forth the objects as aforesaid. The whole of this money, amounting to several hundred pounds, is still lying in that secure treasure-house, the Court of Chancery!

10. *Carter's Legacy*. — Joseph Carter, mariner, of Bristol, by his last will, dated Aug. 6, 1768, and proved in London, July 8, 1769, bequeathed, amongst other legacies, £50

“to the Minister and Churchwardens for the time being of the said parish of Bampton in the county of Oxford, to be by them placed out at interest, and the interest thereof annually divided amongst the poor of the parish of Bampton aforesaid, not receiving parish-pay.”

This legacy of £50 has, of late years, been reduced to less than half of its original amount; for, having been deposited in the care of the late Mr. Burrow, one of the vicars of Bampton, it remained in his hands until his death, when it appeared that the affairs of the deceased were in a state of insolvency, and only about £20 were recovered for the parish, amounting in 1844, with interest, to £30. 3s. 6d., and lying in the charge of the Rev. D. Adams, one of the present vicars of Bampton.

11. *Upper Moor close and Brookfast Furlong close*. See Mr. Hudson's pamphlet for an account of these lands, which were purchased out of the following legacies, £200 given by John Holloway, 100 pounds by Dr. W. Osborne, 50 pounds by Rev. Edw. Cotton, 5 pounds by Rob. Geeves, 10 pounds by



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...AR SCHOOL.

Ann Coxeter, 50 pounds by Tobias Sadler, 10 pounds by Richard and Ann Blagrove, 5 pounds by Robert Cripps, 10 pounds by Thomas and Ann Hall, and 60 pounds the sum total of several other small donations.

They produce at present 10 pounds 19s. half-yearly : of which 2 pounds 14s. 9d. is added to a fund, which accumulates until there is enough to pay a fee for apprentising some poor boy or girl : 6 pounds 16s. 10 pence half-penny is given to the churchwardens to increase the bread-fund, and 1 pound 7s. 4 pence half-penny is distributed half-yearly in half-crowns. After Lady-day the rents will be 30 pounds a year.

12. *Lower Moor close and Lake-Reddy close.*—It appears that the latter of these fields, about two acres, was sold some years ago by the authority of the commissioners when the Inclosure took place. The Lower moor close, about 9 acres and a half, is now rented by Mr. Bateman and produces 15 pounds per annum, of which 3 pounds 4s. is added to the bread-fund : the rest, minus land-tax, is given to the vicars' fund for supplying the poor with coal during the winter. After Lady-day, 1849, the rent will be raised to 20 pounds per annum. The fields were purchased with the legacies of John Palmer, Robert Veysey, John Tull, John Butt, Henry Clanfield, and others.

13. *National School.*—There appear to be no trustees of this institution. There is a large building near the centre of the town, consisting of an upper room occupied by the girls, and a lower room, by the boys. The master receives 20 pounds a year : the mistress 15 pounds a year : a miserable pittance, when we consider the importance of their duties : they receive also one penny a week from each pupil. The salaries are paid out of the following sources : 30 pounds a year the rent of the Shilton estate, 20 pounds interest of money lent to the Stokenchurch turn-pike trust, and 1 pound 10s. paid by Mr. Waite of Aston, the rent of a small piece of land in Shilton meadow, appurtenant

to the Shilton estate, but let to him in a separate occupation.

14. *Miss Carr's bequest.*—Miss Carr, organist of Bampton church, by her will, dated Aug. 16, 1841, bequeathed 100 pounds to her successor. As the words of the will were not thought sufficiently explicit, Miss A. Whitaker, who succeeded Miss Carr in the office of organist, by a deed of declaration, dated April 30, 1845, vested the trusteeship of the 100 pounds minus 10 pounds legacy-duty, in Fred. Whitaker esq., Rev. D. Adams, Rev. R. Barnes, and A. Close esq., the interest to be paid to the organist of Bampton church for ever.

15. *Monk's legacies &c.*—Mr. William Monk, of Aston, by his will dated Jan. 7, 1848, directs that his trustees, who are also his executors, viz. Mr. Richard Townsend, of Cote House in the parish of Bampton, yeoman, and Mr. David Townsend of Aston, yeoman; after paying certain legacies out of his residuary estate, shall also, from the same source,

Place out £50 at interest, free of legacy duty, and with such interest and any part of the principal that may be necessary purchase four and a half tons of coal every year (till the whole be spent) for the use of the most deserving poor of Aston and Coate aforesaid, to be distributed amongst them the day before New Christmas in every year, and then to place out £30 at interest, free of legacy-duty, and with such interest, and any part of the principal, to pay 2s. 6d. a-piece to every poor widow of Aston and Coate the day before New Christmas in every year till the whole be exhausted."

Then follow other legacies, after which the testator directs that his said trustees shall

Stand possessed of the clear residue, UPON TRUST to place the same out at interest on good and valid security, and expend the same, both principal and interest, one half towards defraying the expense of erecting a spire or tower to the church lately built at Aston aforesaid, and the residue towards buying and putting up bells in the same or otherwise improving the said church or its appurtenances: PROVIDED, NEVERTHELESS that, if in the course of ten years from my death a sufficient sum cannot be obtained, by subscription or otherwise, to erect such tower or spire, then upon trust to lay out the whole in furnishing bells for the said church or otherwise improving or embellishing the same or the things appertaining thereto.

The intentions of the deceased, as expressed in his will, are however very likely to be frustrated, for it appears, by the

statement of the executors that Mr. Monk had over-estimated his property, and that there will be little or no money remaining for the above-named purposes, after other legacies have been paid.

16. *Fox's gifts &c.*—Mr. Thomas Fox, of Aston, yeoman, by deed dated May 25, 1839, and duly inrolled in Chancery, gave a yearly charge of £4, proceeding out of a farm-house or home-stead &c. at Aston, formerly in his own occupation, towards the repair and maintainance of Aston church for ever.

Also the same Mr. Thos Fox, by his last will, dated March 10, 1845, after other bequests, &c. directs that £20 be paid out of the sale of a close of land called Woodleys at Lew, which close is not to be sold until after the death of Mrs. Sarah Baston who is to have the rents for her life, and the said £20 is then to be spent by the trustees of the said will, namely James Rose and Edward Jeeves, in buying fuel for the poor of Aston and Cote in the next winter-season after her death. He also confirms the charge of £4 a year, formerly made by deed inrolled, for the repairs of the church of Aston.

17. *Miscellaneous, lost legacies, &c.*—Such are the following.

The Workhouse, and the land on which it stood, formerly the property of the parish, were sold in 1840, and the proceeds paid over towards the expense of building the Witney Union.

Mr. E. Church's legacy, called the Widows' estate by Mr. Hudson, seems never to have become the property of the parish.

Mrs. Leverett's, and *Mrs. Susanna Frederic's* second legacy of money lent to Mrs. Leybourne, and the latter lady's bequest of one guinea for a sermon. I have not been able to procure any information concerning these bequests beyond that which is to be found in Mr. Hudson's pamphlet.

Mrs. Dewe's legacy of £ 200. This money, bequeathed by Mrs. Dewe by will dated Sept. 24, 1763, having been for some

years employed, according to the will of the donor, was eventually lent, with the other monies, altogether £1300, to the Stoken-church turnpike trust.

Lost charities of Aston and Coate.—

In the Sixteens' book, hereafter to be described, and preserved at Cote House, page 8, is a list of

CHARITABLE GIFTS BESTOWED ON THE POOR OF ASTON AND COAT, BY WHOME AND WHO ARE NOW ACCOUNTABLE TO PAY IT.

By will 1665. Mr. John Palmer's gift of Weald in the co. of Oxon, to the poore of Aston and Coate, the sum of £50, lies in the hands of Wm Gardyner of Gyting in the co. of Gloucester, Esq. who pays yearly att Christmas the interest being £3 to the overseers of the poore of Aston and Coat but hath given no security yet (as he ought) to the overseers of the said poore for the said £50.

By will 1665. Mr Robert Dale's gift to Coat in the parish of Bampton, in the co. of Oxon is the use of £5.

This sum of £5 lies in the hands of his heire Tho. Dale, who by his father's will is tyed to pay the use thereof yearly to the poore of Aston and Coat: the land is to pay it for ever.

Mr. Coxe's gift of Stanforde in the Co. of Berks is the use of 33s. 4d. only to be given yearly to Coate every Christmas by John Moulden.

Mr Willmot's gifts is 13s, 4d. to be payd yearly att the Easter to the overseers of the poore of Aston and Coat to be pd by Bampton churchwardens.

Sir Wm Coventry's gift to the parish of Bampton by his will..... counsel.....we ought to have.....share and when the commission of charitable uses is extant requisite wee make recourse to the commissioners, for.....right which gift, if not pd, ought to be demanded of the overseers of the poore of Bampton or of those who distribute the said charity.

Thomas Fox his gift to the poore of Aston and Coat is the use of 10s. pd yearly by the owner of Hucket Close to the churchwardens or overseers of Aston and Coat, given in his will, and the close is tyed to pay it for ever 10s. yearly.

This last sum was paid by Mr Darby owner of the Hucket Close, until his death in 1810 or 1811, since which time it has ceased to be paid. By the returns made to Parliament in 1786, the bequest is said to have been made in 1721.

§ 29. MANORS OF BAMPTON, BAMPTON-DEANERY,
ASTON, AND SHIFFORD.

For the following account of manors I am indebted to the

kindness of Fred. Whitaker, esq. J. P., lord of the manor of Bampton deanery, and well acquainted with the whole subject of manors, their nature and jurisdiction.

"It would be beyond the scope of my design, and at the same time uninteresting to the general reader, and to those who from local circumstances feel interest in the perusal of these pages, were I to enlarge upon the origin and nature of what is called a Hundred or a Manor; but as the town of Bampton is the Hundred-Town, and there will be found in the appendix some transcripts from records relating to the Hundred and Manor of Bampton, it may, for the better understanding them, be useful to furnish the reader with a few general observations on the subject.

The division of the kingdom into counties, hundreds, and tithings, is said to have been the work of King Alfred, and his object the prevention of rapine and disorder, which prevailed in his realm. But neither the mere separation of a given portion of the kingdom and calling it a county, nor of a county and calling it a hundred, nor of a hundred and calling it a tithing, would in itself at all advance this object. It was by instituting certain courts or tribunals within these particular limits, that he hoped to accomplish his object, and, as has been said of him, to bring Justice home to every man's door; hence in glancing at the courts which from these views of the king sprang up, we shall have to notice the very courts, which until lately were held within the hundred and manor of Bampton.

In ancient times it was the duty of the Sheriff of a county to make his circuit through every hundred of his county twice in the year, and to hold a court for the reformation of common grievances, and for the preservation of the peace and good government of the kingdom; at which court all the inhabitants above twelve years old (with some exceptions) were bound to attend, to make inquiries of all offences, and also to give security to the public for their own good behaviour by taking an oath to be faithful to the king and to observe his laws. And they were to incorporate themselves into some free-pledge or tithing, which formerly comprised a certain number of families living together in the same precinct, the members whereof were every one of them mutually bound for each other, and punishable for the default of any member of a family in not appearing to answer for himself on any accusation made against him.

The jurisdiction of the Sheriff extended to every hundred in the county, unless, by prescription or by virtue of some grant or charter, it had come into the hands of some private Lord of the Leet, as the Hundred and Manor of Bampton had by the grant of King Henry the 3rd [No. IV in the appendix] come into the hands of William de Valence. These grants or charters usually specified the powers with which the Lord of the Leet and the Manor was to be invested, and the instruments of punishment which he was to keep. Amongst the latter, which he would have by law without enumeration, as incident to the situation of Lord of the Leet, was a pillory, and a tumbrell or cucking-stool: the

former is a well known instrument of punishment; the latter, because not so well known, I shall describe out of Jacob's Law Dictionary. "Cuckingstool is an engine invented for the punishment of scolds and unquiet women, by ducking them in the water, called in ancient time a 'Tumbrel' and sometimes a 'Trebuchet.'... And it was in use even in the time of our Saxons, by whom it was described to be *Cathedra in qua rixosæ mulieres sedentes aquis demergebantur.*" A chair or stool in which scolding, brawling women, being made to sit, were plunged over head and ears in water.

An indefinite number of hundreds made up a county, but ten tithings, hamlets, or townships were said formerly to have made up a Hundred, for every one of which tithingmen were appointed at the court-leet of the Hundred; but since an Act of Parliament passed on the 12th of August, 1842, the office of a tithingman is no longer in use, and the appointment of constables was taken from the Lords of the Leet, and is now made by Justices of the peace at a special Sessions of the peace: in the Hundred of Bampton it is made at Burford for the western, and at Witney for the eastern division of the Hundred.

In ancient times there was a ceremony, performed at court-leet, which consisted of what was called view of frank or free-pledge. Here the heads of the different families of the different tithings presented themselves to the Lord or Steward of the court, and a certain number of neighbours became bound, one for another, to see each man of their pledge or tithing forthcoming at all times, or to answer for any transgression done by any one who was gone away; and when any one offended, it was forthwith inquired to what pledge he belonged, and then the members of that pledge either produced the offender within 31 days, or satisfied for his offence. This mode of making one neighbour in a tithing become responsible for another, has, looking at the then state of society, been highly commended by law authors, and is said by Sir William Blackstone to have been the invention of King Alfred, and not merely to have been introduced by him from any other country.

As to Manors: According to that great lawyer, Sir Edward Coke, in his treatise on Manors and Copyholders, the Saxons, if they had not Manors in precisely the way in which they existed after the introduction of the feudal system at the conquest, had yet, says he, demesnes and services, the two material causes of a Manor. These demesnes they called "Inlands," because the Lords kept them in their own hands; the services they called "Utlands," because those lands were in the manurance and occupation of certain tenants, who, in consideration of the profits arising out of these lands, were bound to perform unto their Lords certain duties and services.

Of these demesne lands, says Sir Edward, one sort was called "Bookland," because they passed by book,—and they in fact differed nothing from our freehold lands at this day,—the other sort was called "Folkland" because they passed by polls, and were claimed and challenged by the tenants, not by assurance in writing, but only by the mouth of the people, (*PER VOCEM POPULI*); and they in effect differ nothing from copyhold lands at this day.

But it is from the Normans, says he, that we had the very form of

Manors, which is observed amongst us at this present day. They it was, who introduced into this country the law of feuds, which, says Sir William Blackstone, had its origin from the military policy of the northern or Celtic nations, the Goths, the Huns, the Franks, the Vandals, and the Lombards, who poured themselves, on the declension of the Roman empire, into all the regions of Europe, whose conquering general, to secure their new acquisitions, allotted large districts or parcels of land to the superior officers of the army; and thus began that celebrated honourable species of tenure called Knight-service and in law-French *SERVICE DE CHEVALIER*, to a state of society arising from which Mr. Burke alludes in the following well-known celebrated passage. "But the age of chivalry is gone. That of sophisters, economists, and calculators has succeeded, and the glory of Europe is extinguished for ever. Never, never more, shall we behold that generous loyalty to rank and sex, that proud submission, that dignified obedience, that subordination of the heart, which kept alive even in servitude itself the spirit of an exalted freedom. The unbought grace of life, the cheap defence of nations, the nurse of manly sentiment and heroic enterprize is gone! It is gone, that sensibility of principle, that chastity of honour, which felt a stain like a wound, which inspired courage whilst it mitigated ferocity, which ennobled whatever it touched, and under which vice itself lost half its evil by losing all its grossness."

This mixed system of opinion and sentiment, he continues, had its origin in the ancient chivalry. And this ancient chivalry was in full vogue and vigour at the time of the grant of the manor of Bampton to William de Valence. Upon that grant being made, he became immediate tenant or tenant in capite to King Henry the 3rd, and held by Knight-service or as the French called it *Service de Chevalier*.

It is universally admitted, I believe, by law-writers that a manor could not be created subsequently to the statute of '*Quia emptores terrarum*' in the 18th year of the reign of King Edward the 1st, but before that statute it was competent to a tenant in capite or even a mesne lord to grant a portion of the land of a manor to another person, and to make of this portion a new manor to be held of himself. When this was done, such a lord was called a mesne-lord, who might hold manor-courts in that portion as his immediate lord had done before in the manor before such separation.

Of these manor-courts the court of the freeholder was called the Hallmote or Court-baron: that of the copyholders the copyhold or customary court of the manor. In the former the free suitors were the judges: in the latter the lord or his steward.

The court-baron was the court where justice and equity were dispensed among the freehold tenants of the manor by the tenants themselves, assisted by the lord or his steward, and down to about A. D. 1800, it appears by the courtbooks, cognizance was taken of causes under 40 shillings at courts held in Bampton. The copyhold or customary court was the court for the lord's villains, who held at the will of the lord and were for a long time his vassals, removable whenever he should manifest his will; but afterwards, when they had acquired a

firmer and less slavish possession, they held and now hold at the will of the lord nominally, but really according to the custom of the manor, and this custom is the charter of their rights.

In the parish of Bampton there are no less than four manors or *reputed* manors: 1. The Manor of BAMPTON. 2. The manor of BAMPTON DEANERY. 3. The Manor of ASTON. 4. The Manor of SHIFFORD. The original records, from which we obtain nearly all our information on this subject, will be found in the Appendix: to which may be added incidental notices found in various works, and some charters concerning Shifford in Dugdale's *Monasticon Anglicanum*.

1. The Manor of BAMPTON appears to have been in the hands of the Conqueror at the time of the Domesday survey: it was afterwards granted to the Count of Boulogne, but again becoming royal property, was granted by Henry III to William de Valence and descended to his son Aylmer de Valence, who dying without issue, it fell to his heir Elizabeth daughter of John Comyn of Badenhaugh. This lady married Richard Talbot, who received from Edward III a grant of free warren dated April 10, 1341. The family enjoyed their estate and privilege of free-warren here, until the 9th year of Henry V, when the property passed to the heroic Sir John Talbot. From this time to the present it is my belief that the manor of Bampton has never wholly been out of the hands of the Shrewsbury family, though Mr. Skelton, apparently following the account given of it in the *Beauties of England and Wales*, a work of little authority, tells us that

"On the 8th July, 1425, Sir William Molins died possessed of this manor with others in the county. In 1441, Robert Hungerford, Esq. having married the daughter and sole heir of Sir Wm. Molins, had possession of the lands of her inheritance. King Edward the 4th subsequently seized upon the manor, in consequence of Robert lord Hungerford having sided with the Lancastrians, and disposed of it to John lord Wenlock."

But I suspect that the family of Molyns and Hungerford

held the manor of Aston and not of Bampton; for the present lords of the manor of Bampton are Thomas Denton, esq., who holds two-thirds, and lord Shrewsbury, who still holds one third of the manor of Bampton, as it would appear, by descent from his ancestor Richard lord Talbot, who first brought it into the family. The two-thirds, which have been alienated, passed by marriage from the Talbots to the Coventry family, from whom they were purchased by the present possessor.

2. The manor of BAMPTON DEANERY is of an earlier origin than the larger manor within which it lies; having been first granted by Leofric to the Dean and chapter of Exeter A. D. 1046. It has remained in their hands until the present time, except for a short period when it was sold with other churchlands in the time of the common-wealth. The present lord of this manor is F. Whitaker esq., holding by lease from the Church of Exeter.

3. The manor of Aston first appears as having been granted before the year 1249, to Hubert Pogges, whence it is sometimes called Aston-Pogges: and by the Inquisition of 3rd Edward I, it appears that it was held of the superior manor of Bampton by the presentation of a sword or the payment of 1s. 6d. This sum is still paid yearly at Cote House by the present lord of the manor H. Hippisley esq., to whose father it was bequeathed by the last surviving member of the Horde family.

We learn from Dugdale's Baronage of England, vol. II, p. 143, that Margaret, daughter and co-heir of Robert Pogges of Stoke in Buckinghamshire, married John Mauduit of Sumerford in Wiltshire, and that their cousin and heir Ægidia married John Molins, ancestor of William lord Molins, who [Dugd. p. 147] "being also a knight, died 8 Maii, 7 Hen. VI, (slain at the siege of Orleans in France, as it seems) being then seized of the manors of Sumerford, Lee, Whittelee, Box, Trow, Farnhill, and Gore, in com. Wiltes, Broughton, Henley upon

Thames, Aston, Bampton, and a fourth part of the manor of Standlake, in com. Oxon."

The daughter and heir of Sir William Molyns, Eleanor, married Robert Hungerford, esq., eldest son of Sir Robert Hungerford, who thus, by right of his wife, came into possession "of the lands of her inheritance, part of which were, Henley upon Thames, Broughton, Aston, Bampton, and a part of the manor of Standlake, com. Oxon." See Kennet's *Parochial Antiquities*, p. 562. This Robert Hungerford, says Dugdale, was summoned to Parliament by the title of Lord Molins in the 23rd of Henry VI. In what way the manor of Aston came into the possession of the Horde family I have not been able to ascertain.

4. Concerning the manor of SHIFFORD, in early times, there is great obscurity: in a charter, by which Ethelmare or Aylmer, earl of Cornwall, before the year 1005, gave certain lands to the abbey of Ensham, which he had just founded, appears the "vill of Scipfort," and a charter of confirmation by Remigius, bishop of Lincoln, who died and was buried at Ensham Abbey, in the year of our Lord 1123, mentions "Scipford" as included at that time among the possessions of the abbey. See Bishop Kennet, and Dugdale's *Monasticon*, III, pp. 15. 30.] It is however probable that no manorial rights were granted to the abbey, for we find that the manor of Shifford was in the hands of Edward Crouchback son of Henry III, from whom it descended to Henry earl of Lancaster, then to his daughter Blanch, from her to John of Gaunt duke of Lancaster, and to his son Henry IV. Part of the parish of Standlake was included in the royal property, of which Gaunt House, with its moat, is still a remnant. When the abbeyes were dissolved by Henry VIII, the manor of Shifford was granted to Edward lord North: its lands &c. were then valued at £21. 14s. 6d., less outgoings paid to the receiver &c, £4. 3s.

4d. "and so remaineth clear £17. 10s. 2d." [Valor Eccles. II, 208. Dugdale III, pp. 27—31.]

The hamlet of Shifford, as royal property, was exempt from the following imposts: *telonio*, *passagio*, *stallagio*, *tollagio*, *tallagio*, *carriagio* and *terragio*, throughout the whole kingdom. These were different tolls and duties levied on the erection of stalls, the sale, carriage, and passage of goods, but it is difficult to ascertain their exact nature.

The bounds of Shifford are accurately laid down in the charter above-mentioned, A. D. 1005, and may be traced without much difficulty, even at the present time.

"These are the land-marks at Shifford; first from the Thames to Chimney-lake: from the lake to the way: along the way to Cynlaf's stone: from the stone along the way to Kentwine's tree: from the tree along the way to the lake, along the lake again to Sumerford: and two weirs, one above the lake, the other beneath. *"

NOTE.

The manor of Shifford has, of late years, fallen into a sort of abeyance, no doubt because the population has become so small, and from the fact that almost the whole of it is divided between the two large farms, called Old and New Shifford. The tenants of both these farms have for a large number of years been members of the family of Williams. The late Mr. John Williams (formerly of Coate) who died in 1821, with his sons Mr. Michael and Mr. Peter Williams (the present tenant) have successively held the farm of Old Shifford of the earls of Harcourt.

John Williams, Missionary, martyred at Erromanga, and Sir James Williams, knight, Ex-Sheriff, were branches of this family. The following account of the former may be of interest to my readers:

"The Revd. John Williams was the great grandson of Mr. James Williams of Southleigh, Yeoman, who was for 40 years a Deacon of the Baptist Church at Coate. He left England in 1816 as a missionary to the island of Raiatea, the largest of the Society Islands, under the auspices of the London Missionary Society. For twenty years he prosecuted his self-denying labours in the isles of the Pacific, with an amount of success not often realized. In addition to his stated labours in preaching and teaching the truths of the gospel, in establishing schools, in translating and printing the scriptures and elementary publications, his inventive mind enabled him to instruct the natives in improved modes of constructing their houses, in burning lime from their coral reefs, in erecting simple sugar mills, and even in the construction of a sloop of some 60 or 80 tons, in all which labours, like another Oberlin, Williams was the pioneer, working laboriously with his own hands.—The perseverance which he displayed in overcoming the obstacles which arose from his want of tools, and the destruction of his only pair of bellows by the rats, are graphically described in his *Missionary Enterprises*, some 9 or 10 editions of which have been published.—His self-devotion and disinterestedness at length had its due effect upon the minds of the natives; animated with the zeal of the first Christians they abolished the superstitions of ages and brought the idols of their ancestors to their instructors to be committed to the flames. The Honourable Captain Waldegrave, H. M. S. *Seringapatam*, and Lord Byron, captain of the *Blonde*, have borne honorable testimony to the proficiency of these poor islanders in Scriptural knowledge, and declared that they had received answers to

* This sind the land-gemære to Scipforda: ærest of Temese on Ceomina-laca: of there laca on thone weg: andlang weges on Cinlafa's stan: of tham stane andlang weges on Kenewines treow: of tham treow andlang weges on the lace: andlang lace theraft on Sumerford: and II weas: other buian there lace: other beneath.

questions on religious subjects put by them, which most assuredly they never would have received at any provincial school in England.

The ardour of Williams's mind led him to confer the blessings of Evangelization on the Harvey group of islands, and especially the island of Rarotonga. At these islands the gospel was received with eagerness.—From one island, where it had been proclaimed, but where it was not possible to leave a missionary, a native visited Rarotonga in an open canoe, (a voyage of 80 miles) to fetch, as he expressed it, a little religion, which he took home to his countrymen, and then returned for further instruction. In the year 1838 Williams visited his native country, principally with the view of interesting the British public in his favourite scheme of evangelizing the different groups of the Pacific. His intelligent, simple, and manly appeals found a ready response in the heart of thousands. Men of science and of commerce saw, in the progress of Missions, the true basis of civilization and the advancement of knowledge. Many men of rank and affluence (and notably the duke of Devonshire) cheerfully aided the undertaking.

Mr. Williams returned to Polynesia in a ship which had been presented to him, the "Camden," followed by the prayers and the sympathies of thousands. But shortly after his return, in endeavouring to gain access to the island of Erromanga, one of the group of the New Hebrides, he was massacred by those whom he came to save; in revenge, no doubt, for some long remembered cruelties inflicted upon them by Europeans, who had formerly touched at their shores. He died Nov. 20, 1833." B. W.

§ 30. PAST HISTORY OF BAMPTON CHRONOLOGICALLY

ARRANGED.

The most ancient monument of antiquity remaining in the parish of Bampton, is, no doubt, 'Lew barrow,' a mound about 15 feet high and of proportional dimensions, standing on the highest point of the Lew hills. The Barrow has been of late years planted with trees, and surrounded by a hedge, so that it would be difficult for a stranger to find it, and when found, the mass of foliage, with which it is thickly covered, deprives it of that striking and impressive character, which all such grand and simple monuments, in their original state, possess. It is also for another reason to be lamented that this solitary record of the Ancient Britons,—for it is probably a chief of that nation who lies there entombed,—should be covered with a plantation. The yearly dilapidations of the young trees will more and more tend to deprive the mound of its original features, until they have arrived at maturity, when they will probably be felled and their roots be grubbed up, a process, which in all probability, will complete the destruction of the mound, that marks the ancient warrior's tomb. †

† If these remarks should meet the eye of the proprietor of Lew Barrow, it may suggest or his consideration the propriety of removing the plantation, and of restoring Lew Barrow, as near as may be, to its original state.

Though there is no reason for disputing the tradition which gives a sepulchral origin to Lew barrow, I have not been able to ascertain that any Roman or British road passed through or near the parish of Bampton, though some of our antiquaries have endeavoured to prove that such was the case.

It is well known that the Romans had hardly gained a footing in this island, before they began to make military roads or to remodel the existing roads of the Britons, so as to suit their own military purposes. These constructions were of two kinds, High-ways, *viæ vicinales*, of which there were four, traversing the kingdom from one extremity to the other, and bye-ways, *viæ minores*, which formed the communication between small towns and villages. The former were also denominated, Royal roads, *regiæ*; Prætorian, *prætorix*; Consular, *consulares*; Privileged, *privilegiatæ*; &c. according to particular circumstances connected with them: the latter were also denominated Vicinal, *vicinales*; because they led from one hamlet (*vicus*) to another.

In the third volume of Grose's antiquities I find the following account of the two principal Roman roads which passed through Oxfordshire. To save the reader the trouble of referring to that work, I extract the passage, though I suspect that the Akeman Street passed too far to the north to have touched the parish of Bampton:

"The Roman roads in this county are the Ikeneld Street and Akeman Street. The first enters Oxfordshire at Garingeford from Berkshire, and passes North-east, where it enters Buckinghamshire. The Akeman Street was a consular way, enters from Buckinghamshire near Bicester, passes through Woodstock Park, and crossing the river Charwel, and Evanlode, enters Gloucestershire, South-West of Burford (it must therefore have run by or through Bampton). Another road is the remains of a vicinal way, called Gryme's Dyke, which enters this county from Berkshire, near Wailingford, crosses the Thames, and running South-East, and crossing Ikeneld Street, passes the Thames a second time near Henly, and re-enters Berkshire."

It appears, then, that before the conquest of England by the

Saxons, there are no notices, in history, of Bampton, and but one ancient monument which can be said to belong to the preceding period. But soon after the country had submitted to the domination of the Saxons, we find this town mentioned as the scene of a bloody battle between the West-Saxons and the neighbouring Britons from Wales. The earliest mention of this occurrence is found in the work, commonly called the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, which was written at different times and by different persons : the first part of it was written probably in the seventh century.

The unlearned reader may require to be told that between the years 500 and 800 of the Christian æra England was divided into seven petty kingdoms. The county of Oxford lay between the kingdoms of Mercia and Wessex. This frontier-position of Oxfordshire occasioned it to be the scene of frequent battles between the Mercians and West-Saxons, in which the neighbouring Britons, from the western parts of Gloucestershire and Wales, frequently took part, assisting sometimes one party, sometimes the other, and not unfrequently fighting against them both. In the year 611 Cynegils became king of Wessex, and in the fourth year of his reign he was summoned to repel a large army of Welchmen who had invaded his dominions on the northern frontier. In this expedition he had the aid of his brave, but ferocious and blood-thirsty son, Cuichelm, who became king after him. The notice of this exploit is given with little regard to embellishment in the Saxon Chronicle.

"A. D. 614. This year Cynegils and Cuichelm fought at Beamdune, and slew two thousand and sixty five Welshmen."

This is all we know of a battle, which, if we may judge by the number of the slain, must have been an action of considerable importance. It is not mentioned by Venerable Bede ; and some of the later Chroniclers, as Ethelwerd, Henry of Huntingdon, and Florence of Worcester, have either followed the

words of the Old Chronicle, or varied and amplified them by unimportant additions.*

I find in a work of little authority called the British Traveler [4 vols 4to, London, 1819, v. IV, p. 63] the following statement, which, if it were true, would give us the next fact in chronological order, belonging to the history of Bampton.

"At Bampton, in 682, a council is said to have been held by the kings Etheldred and Berthwald; at which Aldhelm, abbat of Malmesbury, being present, was commanded to write against the error of the British Church in the observance of Easter."

It is certain that such a council was held about this time, and that Aldhelm, abbat of Malmesbury, was present at it, and it is extremely probable that the council was held in this neighbourhood, but that it was held at Bampton is more than I can venture positively to assert.

Another statement, found in the same publication, however correct it may be in all other particulars, is certainly erroneous as far as regards the place where the facts are said to have happened. The author, describing Bampton, writes thus:

"On a spot still called the Battle Edge, Cuthred, king of the West-Saxons, then tributary to the Mercians, incensed by the exactions of their king Ethelbald, hazarded an engagement with that prince. He was successful, and took from the enemy their standard, on which was the portraiture of a golden dragon. Plott says that within his own memory, the towns-people were accustomed annually to make a dragon to which they added a giant, and both were carried through the street, with much parade and jollity, on Midsummer Eve."

In reply to this narrative we have the words of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, which, under the date A. D. 752, gives the

* It is proper to mention that Mr Camden lays the scene of this action at Beandun, now Bindon in Dorsetshire, and Gibson, the commentator of the Saxon Chronicle, at Bampton, in Devonshire, with which our Bampton is often confounded, even at the present day. But, if we consider the many conflicts in that age between the Britons and Saxons these parts, and that the Britons were yet powerful here, before Mercia was brought under subjection to Penda, about 626; and that the West-Saxon kings had their frontier-garrison at Cirencester and Fynsham, frequently infested by the bordering Britons, it is much more probable that Bampton in Oxfordshire was the scene of the battle. To these conjectural reasons we may add the decisive testimony of the Polychronicon, in which under the year 611, we read as follows: "*Kinegilsus et Quichelmus multa strenue fecerunt contra Britones, potissime apud Bampton juxta Oxoniā.*"

following account. "This year Cuthred, king of the West-Saxons, in the 12th year of his reign, fought at Burford against Ethelbald, king of the Mercians, and put him to flight." This was no doubt the battle fought at the place called Battle Edge, and Burford, not Bampton, the place referred to by the Author of the British Traveller.

After this time the name of Bampton again merges into its original obscurity until the reign of king Alfred, an interval of 300 years. This noble monarch, whom England will always place at the head of its truly great men, was born at Wantage in Berkshire, and passed great part of his life in that part of the kingdom. It is necessary here to speak only of his connexion with Bampton which derives its principal lustre from the arts of peace and civilization which it was his principal object to promote. We are not left to doubt that the river whose navigable stream winds between Bampton and the opposite county of Berks, has been often covered with the slender ships and honoured by the presence of the patriot king. But when his fleets and arms had saved England from subjection to her cruel foes, her sovereign endeavoured, by promoting learning and teaching his subjects the advantages of good government, to elevate the country which he had saved to a position among the civilized nations of Europe. To effect this object he not only patronized learning but became a learned man himself. He wrote works, which are still in existence, occupying many volumes, and to him is due the institution of many of our most useful laws.

Sir Henry Spelman, in his life of this illustrious king, p. 127, has given an extract from a MS. formerly in the Cottonian library, containing "diverse precepts and instructions" of King Alfred, tending to inform and ameliorate his rude subjects. This MS probably perished in the fire which consumed many volumes of the Cottonian library. The reader will find in the

appendix to this volume all that remains of these sayings of King Alfred in the original Anglo-Saxon tongue, and I here subjoin a literal translation in English :

AT Shifford sat thanes many,
Many bishops, and many book-learned [men],
Earls wise and knights awful.
There was earl Alfrie, of the law so wise,
And eke Alfred, England's herd ['s-man], England's darling ;
In England he was king ; them he began [to] learn,
So him they might hear, how they their life should lead.

ALFRED, he was in England a king well so strong.
He was king and clerk : well he loved God's work.
He was wise in his word, and wary in his speech.
He was the wisest man that was in England.

THUS QUOTH ALFRED England's darling :
" Would ye now live and long after your Lord !
And he would you [make to] know wise things,
How you might world's worship obtain.
And eke your souls unite to Christ !"
Wise were the quotations that said the king Alfred.
Mildly I mind you, my dear friend, poor
And easily loving, that ye all dread your
Lord Christ, love him and like, for he is
Lord of life : he is one God over all goodness.
He is one bliss over all blessedness.
He is one man, mild master : he one folk's father [common
And darling : he is one right wise and rich king, father],
That him not shall be pane naught of his will
Who Him here in world worship and eth."

THUS QUOTH ALFRED, England's comfort.
" He may no right king be under Christ's self,
But [unless] he be book-learned, and wise of law
And he his writs well know, and he can
Letters locen himself, how he shall his land
Lawfully hold.

THUS QUOTH ALFRED, England's comfort :
" The earl and the atheling too be under the king,
The land to lead with lawful deed ;
Both the clerk and the knight with evenly right.
For after that the man soweth,
Thereafter he moweth ;
And every man's doom to his own door cometh.

THUS QUOTH ALFRED : " The knight behoveth
Cunningly to mow for to weary [relieve] the land
Of hunger, and of heregong, that the Church have
Quiet and the churl [peasant] be in peace,
His seeds to sow, his meads to mow,
His ploughs to drive to our all behoof :
This is the knight's law to look that it well fare.

Here the original, copied by Spelman, terminates, and as the manuscript no longer exists, the reader must take the remainder in Spelman's free translation.

Thus quoth Alfred: "Without wisdom wealth is worth little. Though a man had an hundred and seventy acres sown with gold, and all grew like corn, yet were all that wealth worth nothing, unless that of an Enemy one could make it become his friend. For what differs gold from a stone, but by discrete using of it?"

Thus quoth Alfred: "A young man must never give himself to evil, though good befals him not to his mind, nor though he enjoys not every thing he would: for Christ can when he will give good after evil and wealth after grace. Happy is he that is made for it."

Thus quoth Alfred: "A wise Child is the blessing of his father. If thou hast a child, while it is little, teach it the precepts that belong to a man; and when it is grown up it will follow them; then shall thy child become such as shall recompense thee; but if thou lettest him go after his own will, when he cometh to age it will grieve him sore, and he shall curse him that had the tuition of him: then shall thy child transgress thy admonition, and it would be better for thee that thou hadst no Child; for a child unborn is better than one unbeaten."

Thus quoth Alfred: "If thou growest into age, hast wealth, and canst take no pleasure, nor hast strength to govern thyself, then thank thy Lord for all that he hath sent thee, for thy own life, and for the day's light, and for all the pleasures he hath made for man; and whatsoever becometh of thee, say thou, come what come will, be welcome."

Thus quoth Alfred: "Wordly wealth at last cometh to the worms and all the glory of it to dust, and our life is soon gone. And though one had the rule of all this middle world, and of the wealth in it; yet could he keep his life but a short while. All thy Happiness would but work thy misery, unless thou couldst purchase thee Christ. Therefore, when we lead our lives as God hath taught us, we then best serve ourselves. For then be assured that he will support us; for so said Salomon, that wise man; well is he that doeth good in this world, for at last he cometh where he findeth it."

Thus quoth Alfred: "My dear son, set thee now beside me, and I will deliver thee true Instructions. My son I feel that my hour is coming. My countenance is wan. My My days are almost done. We must now part. I shall to another world, and thou shall be left alone in all my wealth. I pray thee (for thou art my dear child) strive to be a Father, and a Lord to thy people, be thou the children's Father and the widow's friend, comfort thou the poor and shelter the weak; and with all thy might, right that which is wrong. And, son, govern thyself by law, then shall the Lord love thee, and God above all things shall be thy Reward. Call thou upon him to advise thee in all thy need, and so he shall help thee the better to compass that which thou wouldst."

In remembrance of king Alfred's parliament at Shifford we may adduce the testimony of long-lived tradition: the rising

ground, in which the little church stands, is still called the "Court-close," and is well adapted for holding a large assembly of people. The "king's-way" field, close to Aston, derives its name, probably, from the presence of the king. It may also be mentioned that ruins, apparently of a burial-ground, lying between the present church and the river, attest that Shiford was a more considerable place than it is at present.

A. D. 1016. This year was fought a severe battle between Edmund Ironside and Canute, at Sceorstan, which is referred to Chimney by Thorpe, in his translation of Lappenberg [II, 189], but I have no doubt that it applies rather to Sherstone near Malmesbury.

The history of Bampton is now again lost in obscurity, until the time of Edward the Confessor, — a man who would have been a credit to a society of monks, but, as a king, was the first cause of all the calamities which his people afterwards endured. The chaplain to this prince was Leofric, who, upon the union of the two bishoprics of Crediton and St. German's (the bishopric of Cornwall) in 1046, and the removal of them to Exeter, became the first bishop of that see, and gave to his newly founded cathedral-church at Exeter his land at Bampton, which after the lapse of eight centuries, notwithstanding all the violent religious and political convulsions which have arisen during that period, the Dean and chapter of Exeter still retain in their possession. For the most complete account of Leofric, see Godwin, vol. I, p. 300.

In the Appendix will be found the charter by which the church of Exeter still holds its property in Bampton: it is copied out of a book preserved in the Bodleian library, which was also given by Leofric to the church at Exeter.

A. D. 1086. At this time Domesday-book was written, by order of William the Conqueror. Bampton is therein mentioned in the following manner:

"The King holds BENTON (Bampton). There are twenty seven hides and a half. In the domain are 6 waggons and 6 slaves and 40 villains and 17 husbandmen, and 13 Cottagers (bordarii) holders of Bord-lands, have 16 waggons. In the time of king Edward they had 26 waggons.

There are four mills of 25s. From the fisheries they have 20 shillings. From the meadows 65 shillings. From the market 50 shillings. From the pannage and salt-works of Wic and other customary payments, £9. 13s. From the year's produce £15. The soke of two Hundreds belongs to this Manor.

In the whole it pays by the year 80 pounds and forty shillings by the tale.

Ilbert of Lacy holds half a hide by the gift of the Bishop of Bayeux ; and Walter, son of Ponz, holds a certain small portion of land ; and Henry de Ferrars holds a certain Wood, which Bundy the Forester had. The County affirms that all this belongs to the King.....

The Bishop of Exeter holds of the king six hides in Benton, (Bampton,) and Robert of him. Bishop Levrice (Leofric) held it. The land is of 6 ploughs. Now in the domain are two ploughs and two slaves and ten villains with seven Cottagers. They have three ploughs. In that place are two fisheries of thirty-three shillings, and forty acres of Meadow."

A. D. 1152, March 14 — The date of a bull issued by Pope Eugenius, confirming the possessions of the church of Exeter. Bampton is therein described as a church divided into two prebends by the then Bishop of Exeter, Robert Chichester — "*ut videlicet, si ecclesia illa de Bentune in meliorem statum temporis processu devenerit, sexaginta solidi exinde, si superfuerint, fratrum communioni proveniant.*"

A. D. 1218. This year, according to White Kennet, in his *Parochial Antiquities*, [4th edit. v. I, page 187,] "in the accounts of the sheriff, Reginald, earl of Boulogne, answered for lands in Bampton."

This is confirmed by the plea which William de Valence adduced at the assize held in Oxford, A. D. 1285, shewing that he held his manorial rights in Bampton by the same tenure as the Count of Boulogne, who "held that manor, with the hundred, of our King Henry, father of the king that now is. &c."

A. D. 1249, March 10, the date of the charter to William de Valence. By this deed, of which the preamble is addressed

in the usual form, "The king to the archbishops, &c. health," recites the grant of

all our manor of Bampton to our faithful and well-beloved brother William de Valence, together with the hundred, domains, homages, rents, &c. &c. except those lands with their appurtenances which we had before granted within the same manor for thirty librates of land to Hubert Pogeys, whose service and homage we have moreover granted to the same William de Valence.

A. D. 1314-15. In this year, which was the 8th of Edward II, Aylmer de Valence, grand-son of William de Valence, and earl of Pembroke, "obtained a license from the king to make a castle of his house at Bampton." These are the words of White Kennet, in his *Parochial Antiquities*[I, p. 386,] but as he refers to no authority for this statement, the period, at which Bampton Castle first received the character and appearance of a fortress was supposed to be still involved in uncertainty, and in the first edition of this volume it was stated as a matter rather of probability than of historical certainty that Aylmer de Valence first fortified the Castle. Of this fact there cannot now be a reasonable doubt, for in the Patent Rolls, published within the last few years, we find the following entry, [Pat. Rot. 8 Edw. II, par. 2, m. 17] :

Quod Adomarus de Valencia Comes Pembrochiæ possit crenellare mansum suum de Bampton in com. Oxon.

That Aylmer de Valence, earl of Pembroke, may crenellate, [i. e. make battlements and towers to] his castle at Bampton.

By the discovery of this notice the question is entirely set at rest for the future; and it is interesting to remark, though no longer necessary as a link in the argument, that the ruins of the Castle, still in existence, are in direct harmony with the account just given, being certainly not more ancient than the date here assigned.

A. D. 1321. This year is memorable for the civil wars which raged between the king Edward II, and his barons. The dissension had begun the year before, but some hopes of a reconciliation still remained: which however were soon de-

stroyed. The cause of the war being renewed is told us by Geoffery le Baker a native of Swinbroke,* and afterwards a monk in Oseney abbey. "In the year 1321 the lady, Queen Isabella, about the feast of Saint Michæl, came to the Castle of Leeds in Kent, wishing to spend the night there, but admittance was denied her. The king, construing the queen's repulse into an affront upon himself, commanded the neighbouring people, with the men of Essex and some Londoners, to besiege the castle. The governor of the fortress, B. de Baddesmere, leaving his wife and children in the castle, with his servants to defend it, set out with the other barons to plunder the property of Hugh" le De Spencer, the king's favourite. The king meanwhile reduced the castle and spent the following Christmas-day at Cirencester, from whence he marched with his army towards Gloucester. Meanwhile the earl of Lancaster was at the head of another army at Bampton. During these fatal heats, there were solemn justs performed at Witney, between Humphrey Bohun, earl of Hereford, and Aylmer de Valence, earl of Pembroke.

A. D. 1329. Robert de Elford [probably Yelford near Bampton] at this time held a tenement at Aston on the condition of "serving with a bow and arrows or some other kind of arms in any war of our lord the king, within his kingdom, for the space of 40 days, at his own proper cost." [See Appendix, p. 16, last line; and Ashmol. MS. 863, p. 71].

A. D. 1387. Date of the battle of Radcot-Bridge.

"The river Isis is crossed, three miles to the south-west of Bampton, by Radcot Bridge, an ancient structure of three arches. In consequence of a cut, made in 1787, for the improvement of the navigation, the stream, which flows through, is now deserted by traffic, but the neighbourhood possesses much picturesque beauty. In this vicinage, a conflict took place, in the reign of Richard II, between Robert de

* Galfridi le Baker de Swinbroke Chronicon, edid. J. A. Giles, Lond. 8vo, 1847.

Vere, earl of Oxford, and several of the nobility who envied his favour with the crown. The Earl was vanquished, but saved his life by plunging into the stream, and swimming to the opposite bank. He escaped to the continent, but died, three years afterwards, in Lorraine, by a wound received from a boar in the chase. His corpse was conveyed to England, and interred at the priory of Colne in Essex, which structure had been founded by his ancestor, Alberic, the first earl. The king attended the funeral in person; and his monument is still extant, enriched with the effigies of himself and wife." [British Trav. vol. IV, p. 63.]

A. D. 1400. In this year, which ended the reign of Richard II, and began that of his successor Henry IV, the men of Wantage, Faringdon, Bampton, and no doubt of Shifford also, which belonged to Henry's family, rose in favour of Henry and defeated the earl of Salisbury and other partisans of king Richard at Cirencester [Rymer, Merks's pardon, Nov. 28, 1400, and *Chronique de la traison de Richart*, &c. par B. Williams, Lond. 1841, p. 241].

A. D. 1443. Edmund Wallewayn held a tenement at Aston, half a yard-land, two acres of meadow, and two of pasture &c., also a messuage at Cote, one yard-land, three acres of meadow, three of pasture, &c., also at Lewe, one yard-land. [Inquisitiones post mortem, IV, 217].

A. D. 1481, April 6, the date of a deed, [No XIV in the Appendix] by which it appears that "Richard Williams came to this court and received of the lord one messuage, one toft and two half yard-lands with their appurtenances, called Doddes and Wilderes, to have and to hold to him and to his, according to the custom of the manor, by rent, other charges, customs and services therefrom justly due and accustomed formerly to be paid therefrom: and he gave to the lord by way of fine, both for right to grant a sub-tenement, and also for having free entry, 20 pence, provided always that he shall pay to the lord, under the name of heriot, whenever it shall so happen, 20 pence; and he did fealty, and was admitted tenant thereof."

A. D. 1540. To this year belongs the following notice of Shapp, alias Heppe abbey, in the county of Westmoreland, from a Roll, 32nd of Henry VIII, preserved in the Augmentation office and quoted in Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. VI, page 840 :

"Computus ministrorum domini regis temp. Hen. VIII.

Shappe nuper Monasterium. Com. Westm[orland.] [among many other places] Carhullen in Bampton, reddit. et firm. ten. £4. 17s. 4d."

A. D. 1543. This year the manors and property belonging to the abbey of Ensham were granted by King Henry VIII to Edward lord North. [See Appendix, No XV.]

A. D. 1567. Sir Thomas Chamberlayne is said to have been lord of the manor of Bampton at this time. He possessed a MS. from which Dr. Plott gave an account of different tolls from which Shifford was exempt. See Plott's Hist. of Oxon.]

A. D. 1574. In a "Book of Visitations," for this year, among the Additional MSS [11388] in the British Museum, I find the following notice of a highly respectable family resident at Bampton.

Michael Pennystone, of Bampton in com. Oxon, gent., 2nd sonne to Thos. of Deane in com. Oxon., married Anne dau. to Jeames Calthorpe of Calthorpe in com. Norf., esq., and by her hath issue John Pennistone his eldest sonne and heire apparente, Michael 2nd sonne and Cecilye now yonge.

A. D. 1642. Echard, in his History of Englnd, [vol. II, p. 371], gives the following account of England at this time :

In most parts of England, skirmishes, assaults and sallies were so frequent and so fierce, that all people now dreaded and felt the deplorable effects of a civil war.

A. D. 1646. About this date a battle was fought in Astonfield, between the king's party and the republicans. Perhaps the two square entrenchments, which still appear on the open field between Ten-foot and the Isle of Wight, were thrown up

* Kennett's Parochial Antiquities, page. 886—Quoted from Leland's Collectanea, torn. I, p. 328.

at this time : but I can find no written record either of them or of the battle.

A. D. 1664. This year the celebrated antiquary, Antony Wood, paid a visit to Bampton. We learn this fact from his own diary, which was published by Hearne in a work containing the biographies of the three antiquaries, Leland, Hearne, and Wood. At page 192 of the second volume of that book we find the following memorandum :

"At Northmore with Mr. Pet. Nicolls, where we were entertained by Mr. Twyford. Thence wee went to Bampton, where wee lodged one night in the house of Mr. Cook, one of the vicars. The next morning very early I went to the castle, neare the church there, and took the ruins thereof, and so return'd to Oxon."

This sketch of the castle is engraved in the volume of biography above-mentioned : the original is still preserved among the papers of Ant. Wood in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford, No. 8505. It is very rudely drawn and in the present day would be thought a most contemptible performance, even for an amateur : yet it nevertheless furnishes sufficient data upon which, with the assistance of the existing ruins, a plan of the west front of the castle might be constructed with tolerable accuracy.

A. D. 1677. Dr. Plott's History of Oxfordshire was published this year, bearing the following title :

"The Natural History of Oxfordshire, being an essay toward the Natural History of England. By R. P [lott]. LL. D. Printed at the Theater in Oxford, and are to be had there : And in London at Mr. S. Miller's, at the Star near the West-end of St. Paul's Church-yard. 1577. The price in sheets at the press, nine shillings. To subscribers, eight shillings."

A. D. 1700. In the Rawlinson MS., which was written about this time, I find the following passage, which gives the state of the manors, &c. about this date.

"Lords of the manor and hundred of Bampton, George Talbot earl of Shrewsbury (his elder brother being a abroad) and William Coventry esq. — present vicars, 1. Mr John Edmonds, M. A. St. John's coll. Camb. 2. Mr. Thomas Snell, M. A. fellow of Ex. Coll. Oxf.—The Dean and Chapter of Exeter have a manor here and at Chimney, leased at about £600 per an. by Mr. Veisey, and £300 more by Mrs. Crofts. —Lord of the manor of Shifford is Tho. Slatter, alias Bacon ; it was purchased of Sonibank Vesey — Lord of the manor of Aston and

Coate, Alan Horde esq. — Weald belongs to Shrewsbury and Coventry. Haddon belongs to Sir Rob. Throckmorton. Lew belongs to Shrewsbury and Coventry." Church dedicated to St. Peter. "The parsonage or glebe-land without any tithes, is lett by the dean and chapter of Exeter to Mr. John Dew at 8 score pounds p. an., renewable every 7th year in a lease of 21 years. The dean and chapter of Exeter have the tithes of the several farms, now lett out to the Rev. Mr. Wine of Kingston, in value about 150 lib. p. an., of which 20 p. an. is let to Mr. Nabbs."

A. D. 1812. The date of an Act of Parliament 52 Geo III, c. 46, by which the land round Bampton was inclosed, and three estates set apart for the Vicars in compensation for the tithes, which they formerly received.

APPENDIX

OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS, &c.

1. KING ALFRED'S PARLIAMENT AT SHIFFORD, A. D. 890.

From an ancient Anglo-Saxon Manuscript, formerly in the Cottonian library, and quoted by Spelman in his *Life of Alfred*; but now supposed to be lost.

At Sifford seten thaines manie,
Fele biscofes, and fele boclered,
Erles prude, cnihtes egloche.
There was erle Alfric, of the lage swuth wise;
And ec Alfred Engle-hirde, Engle-derling.
On Engeland he was king: hem he gan leren
Swo hi heren mihten, hu hi here lif leden scolden.

ALFRED he was on Engeland a king wel swithe strong;
He was king and clerk: wel he luvede God's werk;
He was wise on his word, and war on his speche;
He was the wisest man that was on Engeland.

Thus qwath Alvred, Engle frofre,
"Wolde ye nu liben and lusten yure louerd,
And he yu wolde wisen wiseliche thinges,
Hu ye mihten werlds wurthscipe welden,
And ec yure soule samne to Criste,"
Wise weren the cwethen the saide the king Alfred!
"Mildeliche I mune yu, mine dere friend, arme
And edilede luvende, that ye all drede yure
Drihten Crist, luvend him and liden; for he is
Louerd of Life; he is one God over all godnesse;
He is one blisse over alle blessedness;
He is one manne, milde maister; he one folce fader,
And frofre: he is one riht wis and riche king,
That him ne scal be pane noht of his will
Hwo him here on werlde wurthend and eth."

Thus cwath Alvred, Engle frofre,
"He mai no riht cing ben under Crist self,
But he be boclered, wis o loage,
And he hise writes wel icweme, and he cunne
Letres locen himselve hu he scal his lond
Lagelic helden."

Thus cwath Alvred Engle frofre:
"The erl and the atheling tho ben under the cing,
The lond to leden mid lagelic deden.
Bothe the clerc and the cniht demen evenliche riht;
For after that to man soweth,
Therafter he scal mowen;
And elfrilces mannes dom to his ogen dure charigeth."

Thus cwað Alvred, "The cniht behoveþ
 Ceneliche to mowen vor to werie the lond
 Of hunger, and of heregong,
 That the Chureche have grith, and te cherl be in frith,
 His sedes to sowen, hise medes to mowen,
 His plowes to driven to ure alre bilif.
 This is the cnihtes lage, to locen that it wel fare, &c.

II. CHARTER OF LEOFRIC TO THE CHURCH OF EXETER.

A. D. 1046.

From an ancient MS. preserved in the Bodleian library [Auctarium, D, 2, 16.]

Her swutelath on thissere Christes boc hwæt Leofric bishop hæfth gedon into sancte Petres minstre on Exanceastre; thær his biscopstol is, thæt is thæt he hæfth geinnod thæt ær geutod wæs thurh Godes fultum and thurh his forespræce and thurh his gærsuma. thæt is ærost thæt land æt Culmstoke, and thæt land æt Brancscumbe, and æt Sealcumbe, and thæt land æt sancte Maria circean, and thæt land æt Stofordtune, and æt Swearcanwille, and thæt land æt Morceshille, and Sidefullan hiwisc, and thæt land æt Brihtricsstane, and thæt land æt Toppeshamme, theah the Harold hit mid unlage utnam, and thæt land æt Stoke, and thæt land æt Sydebirig, and thæt land æt Niwantune, and æt Northtune, and thæt land æt Clist the Wid hæfde. Thonne ys thisse eaca on landum the he hæfth of his agenum thæt minster midgegodod for his hlaforda sawlum, and for his agenre: tham Godes theowum to bigleofan the for heora sawlum thingian sceolon. thæt ys ærost thæt land æt BEMTUNE, and æt ESTTUNE, and æt Cœommenige, and thæt land æt Doflisc and æt Holacumbe, and æt Suthwuda, and he ne funde tha he to tham minstre feng nan mare landes the thider ynn gewylde wære, thonne twa hida landes æt Ide, and thæron næs orf-cynnes nan mare buton VII hrutheru. Thonne ys this seo oncnawennis the he hæfth God mid gecnawen and sanctum Petrum into tham halgan minstre on circlicum madmum thæt is thæt he hæfth thider ynn gedon II b. roda and II mycele gebonede roda butan othrum litum silfrentum swur rodum and II mycele Christes boc gebonede, and III gebonede serin, and I gebonede altare, and V silfrene caliceas, and IV corporales, and I silfren pipe, and V, fulle mæssereaf, and II dalmatica, and III pistel-roccas, and IV subdiacones handlin, and III cantercæppa, and III canterstafas, and V pællene weofod sceatas, and VII of brædelsas and II tæppedu, and III bera scin, and VII setl hrægæl and II riæg-hrægæl, and II wahre t, and VI mæsene-sceala, and II gebonede hnæppas, and IV hornas, and II mycele gebonede candlesticcan, and VI læssan candelsticcan gebonede, and I silfren stor-cylle mid silfren stor-sticcan, and VIII læffas, and II guthfana, and I mere [forte merc], and VI midreca, and I firdwæn, and I cyste, and thær næron ær buton VII upphangene bella, and nu thær sind XIII upphangene, and XII handbella and II fulle mæsse-boc, and I collectaneum, and II pistel-boc, and II fulle sang-boc and I niht-sang, and I Ad te levavi, and I tropere, and II salteras, and se thriddan saltere swa man singth on Rome, and II ymneras, and I deorwyrthe bletsing-boc, and III othere and I Englisc Christes boc, and II sumer ræding-boc, and I winter ræding-boc, and Regula canonicorum, and Martyrologium, and I canon on Leden, and I scrift boc on Englisc, and I full spell boc, wintres and sumeres, and Boeties boc on Englisc, and I mycel Englisc boc; be gehwilecun thingum on leoth wiran geworht, and he ne funde on tham mynstre tha he to feng boca na ma buton aene capitularie, and I fore alodne nihtsang, and I pistel boc, and II forealdode ræding boc swithe wake, and I wac mæssereaf. And thur fela leden boca he beget inn to tham mynstre liber pastoralis, and liber dialogorum and

libri IV prophetarum, and liber Boetii de consolatione, and Isagoge Porphyrii, and I passionalis, and liber Prosperi, and liber Prudentii Psychomachiae, and liber Prudentii hymnorum, and liber Prudentii de martyribus, and liber Ezechielis prophetæ, and Cantica Canticorum, and liber Isaie prophetæ on sundron, and liber Isidori etymologiarum, and passiones apostolorum, and expositio Bedæ super evangelium Lucæ, and expositio Bedæ super Apocalypsim, and expositio Bedæ super VII epistolas canonicas, and liber Isidori de novo et veteri testamento, and liber Isidori de miraculis Christi, and liber Osorii, and liber Machabæorum, and liber Persii, and Sedulius boc, and liber Aratoris, and diadema monachorum, and Glosæ Statii, and liber officialis Amalarii.

And ofer his dæg he ann his capellan thider binnan forth mid him sifum on eallum tham thingum the he silf dede mid Godes theninge on ther gerad ther tha Godes theowas the thær binnan beoth æfre his sawle gemunon mid heora gebedum and mæsse-sangum to Christe and to sancte Petre and to eallum tham halgum the ther halige minister is fore gehalgod ther his sawle beo gode the anfengre, and se the thas gyfu, and thisne unnan wille Gode, and sancte Petre æt Breðan si him heofena rice ætbroden, and si he ecelice genitherod into helle pite.

III. SURVEY OF BAMPTON, A. D. 1086.

From Domesday Book, written in the reign of William the Conqueror and preserved in the chapter-house at Westminster. This valuable record has been printed by the Commissioners in 5 vols folio but with abbreviations, as in the Original; which makes it difficult to read: that the extract may be more perspicuous and intelligible, it is here printed without abbreviations.

[DOMESDAY BOOK, THE PRINTED EDITION, VOL. I, P. 154].

Rex tenet BENTONE: ibi sunt XXVII hidæ et dimidia. In dominio sunt VI carræ, et VI servi, et XL villani, et XVII buri, et XIII bordarii: habent XVI carras: tempore Regis Edwardi habebant XXVI carras.

Ibi quatuor molini [molinæ], XXV solidorum. De piscariis XX solidos; de pratis XLV solidos; de mercato L solidos; de pasnagio et salinis de Wic et aliis consuetudinibus hominum IX libras et XIII solidos; de annona anni XV libras. Soca duorum hundredorum pertinet huic manerio.

Inter totum reddit per annum quatuor XX libras et XL solidos ad numerum.

Dimidium hidæ tenet Ilbertus de Laci, dono Episcopi Baiocensis: et Walterus filius Ponz tenet quandam particulam terræ; et Henricus de Fereires tenet quandam silvam, quam tenuit Bundi forestarius.

Hoc totum testatur comitatus pertinere ad dominium regis.

[ALSO VOL. I, PAGE 155, NO. V.]

TERRA EPISCOPI DE EXECESTRE.

Episcopus Exoniensis tenet de rege VI hidas in BENTONE, et Robertus de eo; Leuric episcopus tenuit. Terra est V carrarum; nunc in dominio duæ carræ, et duo servi; et X villani cum VII bordariis. Habent VII carras. Ibi II piscariæ de XXXIII solidis set XLVIII acreas prati. Tempore regis Edwardi, valebant IV libris, modo VI libris.

IV. CHARTER OF KING HENRY III, DATED MARCH 10, 1249, GRANTING THE MANOR OF BAMPTON TO WILLIAM DE VALENCE.

Among the Records in the custody of the Master of the Rolls, pursuant to Stat. 1 and 2 Vict.,

cap 94, and preserved in the Tower of London; to wit, Charter-roll of the 33rd year of the reign of king Henry the Third, memb: 5, it is thus contained.

**CHARTA PRO WIL-
LIELMO DE VAL-
ENTIA.**

REX ARCHIEPISCOPIS, &c. SALUTEM. Sciatis nos dedisse, concessisse, et hac charta nostra confirmasse, dilecto fratri et fideli nostro, Willielmo de Valentia, totum manerium nostrum de BAMPTON, cum hundredo, dominiciis, homagiis, redditibus, villenagiis et omnibus aliis pertinentiis suis sine aliquo retinemento, exceptis terris cum pertinentiis quas prius dederamus Huberto Pugeys in eodem manerio pro triginta libratibus terræ, cujus servitium et homagium dedimus eidem Willielmo, una cum custodia terræ et hæredum ipsius Huberti, post mortem suam, habendum et tenendum eidem Willielmo et hæredibus suis de uxore sua procreatis, bene et in pace, quiete et integre cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus ad eandem terram pertinentibus, pro triginta et septem libratibus terræ in partem satisfactionis quingentarum librarum terræ, quas ei per chartam nostram dare concessimus. **ITA** quod tantum decadat de quingentis libris, quas annuatim percipit, ad Scaccarium nostrum, faciendo inde nobis et hæredibus nostris servitia inde debita et consueta. **ITA** quod si forte nos vel hæredes nostri prædictam terram reddere voluerimus rectis hæredibus per voluntatem nostram vel per pacem, non disseisimus prædictum Willielmum vel hæredes suos de uxore sua procreatos, nec disseisiri faciemus, de prædicta terra donec eis rationabile fecerimus excambium ad valentiam prædictæ terræ. Quare volumus et firmiter præcipimus pro nobis et hæredibus nostris quod prædictus Willielmus et hæredes sui de uxore sua procreati habeant et teneant totum prædictum Manerium de BAMPTON cum Hundredo, dominiciis, homagiis, redditibus, villenagiis, et omnibus aliis pertinentiis suis, sine aliquo retinemento, exceptis terris cum pertinentiis, quas prius dederamus Huberto Pugeys in eodem Manerio pro triginta libratibus terræ, cujus servitium et homagium dedimus eidem Willielmo una cum custodia terræ et hæredum ipsius Huberti post mortem suam, bene et in pace, quiete et integre, cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus ad eandem terram pertinentibus, pro triginta et septem libratibus terræ in partem satisfactionis quingentarum librarum terræ, quas ei per chartam nostram dare concessimus. **ITA** quod tantum decadat de quingentis libris, quas annuatim percipit, ad Scaccarium nostrum, faciendo inde nobis et hæredibus nostris servitia inde debita et consueta. **ITA** quod si forte nos vel hæredes nostri prædictam terram reddere voluerimus rectis hæredibus, per voluntatem nostram vel per pacem, non disseisimus prædictum Willielmum vel hæredes suos de uxore sua procreatos, nec disseisiri faciemus, de prædicta terra, donec eis rationabile fecerimus excambium ad valentiam prædictæ terræ, sicut prædictum est.

His testibus venerabili patre F. Londinensi episcopo, Willielmo de Fortibus comite Albemariæ, Johanne Maunsel præposito Beverlaci, Radulpho filio Nicolai, Roberto Passelewe, archidiacono Lewensi, Galfrido de Langele, Willielmo de Bello-monte, Willielmo Gernun, et aliis. Data per manum nostram apud Westmonasterium Xo die Martii.

**V. INQUISITION: COPY OF THE HUNDRED-ROLL OF
BAMPTON AND ASTON, 7th EDW. I, [A. D. 1278-9].**

From the Rolls in the Tower.

**HUNDREDUM DE
BAMPTON.**

INQUISITIO facta coram domino Sampson Foliote domino Fulcon de Ruycote, et sociis secum electis, anno regis Edwardi septimo, et duodecim juratis, videlicet domino Johanne Maudut, domino Matia de Batille, domino Alano de Craule, Roberto de Eleford, Roberto le Paumer de Welde, Ricardo de Hanton

Stephano Frankeland de Weide, Henrico de Heupteseyc, Radulfo de Fileking, Roberto de Stoke, Nicholao Biron de Clanefend; et Johanne de Fifhyde, super articulis a prædictis justitiis, prædictis duodecim deliberatis, scilicet inquirere oportet &c.

BAMPTON

Qui dicunt super sacramentum, quod dominus Willelmus de Valentia tenet in Bampton duas carucas terras de domino rege in capite, et unam carucatam terræ quam habuit de Johanne filio Paulini: et idem Johannes tenuit dictam carucatam terræ de dominico domini regis: et habet libertatem et liberum hundredum forinsecus, ita quod habebit returnum omnium brevium domini regis quæ vicecomiti diriguntur et quæ libertatem illam consuevit: et habet mercatum et feriam: et habuit prædictum tenementum de dono Henrici regis, patris Edwardi regis qui nunc est, cum omnibus libertatibus prænominatis; sed ignorant quo servitio nec quo warranto.

BAMPTON

DOMINUS Robertus Pogeys tenet in Bampton in dominico, ut in dominico, unam carucatam terræ de domino Willelmo de POGEYS Valentia, et reddit eidem per annum octodecim denarios vel unumensem, et idem Willielmus tenet de domino rege in capite; habet etiam libertatem visi franciplegii de hominibus suis; et homines sui debent apparere in curia domini Willelmi de Valencia, ad proximam curiam post festum sancti Michaelis sine occasione.

ITEM idem Robertus habet in eadem unam carucatam terræ de perquisitione de diversis, videlicet 40 acreas de domino Milone de Hasting; et idem M lo tenuit de Benedicto de Blachum et idem de domino rege: item dimidium virgatæ terræ de Johanne Paulino et idem de domino Willelmo de Valance, et idem Willielmus de domino rege in capite.

**ASTON
SERVITIA**

RICARDUS Wolwy tenet in Aston unum messuagium, et unam virgatam terræ de domino Roberto Pogeys, et reddit per annum eidem pro reditu 4 solidos et 4 denarios, ob: pro opere et servitio 8 solidos et 6 denarios quæ quia taxantur.

WILLELMUS Wolwy, Robertus Bobbe, Ricardus le Paumer, Thomas Balwithe, Willielmus Orchard cum Waltero Martin, Johannes Hemming, Engelys relicta Johannis Gilberti, Emma Stephanu., Ricardus Ayline, Matilda de la Garston, Willielmus de la Barre, Ricardus Hogenon, Matilda de Me, Walterius North, Isabella Lunett, Rogerus Midewinter, Walterus Ernald, Willielmus North, Hugo Halyday, Walterus Halyday, Rogerus Bolebebs, Willielmus King, cum Roberto Sefoul, Ricardus Ketse, Agnes Faber, Willielmus Newman, Hugo Bulbebs, Hugo Jurdan, quilibet præscriptorum tenet consimile tenementum in Aston de dicto Roberto Pogeys pro consimili servitio, sicut Ricardus Wolwy præscriptus.

RICARDUS Saleman tenet in eodem unum messuagium, et unam virgatam terræ, de eodem, et reddit per annum eidem 5 solidos et 6 denarios pro reditu; pro opere et servitio 7 solidos et 9 denarios, ob quæ &c.

WILLELMUS Jurdan, Philippus Orchard, Rogerus Lete, Walterius Edwich, Willielmus à la freyne, Thomas Piscator, Rogerus Dod, cum Rogero French, Thomas de la Cote, quilibet præscriptorum tenet consimile tenementum in Aston de eodem pro consimili servitio faciendo eidem, sicut Ricardus Saleman.

ROBERTUS de la Cote tenet in eadem unum messuagium et unam virgatam terræ de eodem et reddit per annum eidem 4 solidos, ob.

WILLELMUS de la Cote tenet in eodem unum messuagium, et unam virgatam terræ, de eodem, et reddit per annum eidem 4 solidos, ob.

MATILDA relicta Carctaram, tenet in eodem unum messuagium et dimidium virgatæ terræ de eodem, et reddit per annum eidem pro reditu 4 solidos et 5 denarios pro opere prædicto, ob quæ quia taxantur.

LIBRI TENENTES **ASSAS** Eygn[shamiensis] tenet in Aston unum messuagium et unam virgatum terræ de Roberto Pogeys, et reddit per annum domino Roberto Pogeys 5 solidos et 2 denarios.

IDEM abbas tenet unam virgatum terræ in puram et perpetuam eleemosynam; unde, nescimus quo warranto.

BAMPTON **ROGERUS** Doyly tenet in villa de Bampton 4 carucatas terræ, in dominico, de domino Hugone de Plec. et idem Hugo de domino rege in capite, et debet scutagium et habet liberam piscaturam in tribus gurgitibus: et habet in bosco quæ vocatur Boynale, husbote et heybote.

VI. PLEAS OF ASSIZE HELD AT OXFORD, IN THE 13th YEAR OF EDWARD I, [A. D. 1285].

From the Rolls at Carlton Ride.

PLACITA de juratis et assizis coram Salomone de Roffs, Ricardo de Boylund, Roberto Fulcon, Galfrido de Pichesford et Rogero Loveday, justiciariis itinerantibus apud Oxford in crastino Sancti Hilarii, [Jan. 14] anno regni regis Edwardi tertiodecimo. **FULCON.**

ROTULO II.

PLACITA domini regis apud Oxoniam... **Fulcon.**

WILLIELMUS de Valentia summonitus fuit ad respondendum domino regi, quo warranto clamat habere returnum brevium, placitum de namio vetito, furcam, et emendum assise panis et cervisiæ factæ in Bampton, quæ ad coronam et dignitatem suam pertinent et debentur.

ET WILLIELMUS venit, et dicit, quod dominus Henricus rex, pater domini regis nunc, dedit ei manerium cum hundredo, et cum omnibus libertatibus ad ea pertinentibus, ad quæ manerium, et hundredum, furca et emend. assise panis et cervisiæ factæ pertinent per prædictam chartam quam profert, et quæ hoc testatur et quoad returnum brevium et placitum de namio vetito, dicit quod quicum comes Bononiensis tenuit prædictum manerium cum hundredo de domino Henrico rege, patre domini regis nunc, et dicit quod eo tempore quo idem comes tenuit manerium prædictum cum hundredo, habuit returnum brevium et tenuit placitum de namio vetito, tanquam pertinentia ad hundredum prædictum: et postea prædicta manerium et hundredum devenerunt ad manus ipsius domini Henrici regis tanquam esacta sua: idem dominus Henricus rex, eo tempore quo ea tenuit in manu sua, tenuit placitum de namio vetito et habuit returnum brevium in eisdem, tanquam ad eadem manerium et hundredum pertinentia: et idem dominus Henricus rex postmodum manerium et hundredum cum pertinentiis eidem Willelmo dedit et concessit, tenendum sibi et heredibus suis de uxore sua procreatis, de ipso domino rege et hæredibus suis, et profert chartam ipsius domini Henrici regis, quæ testatur quod idem dominus Henricus rex dedit et concessit eidem Willelmo prædictum manerium cum hundredo, dominicis, homagiis, redditibus, villenagiis, et omnibus aliis pertinentiis, sine aliquo retinemento, exceptis quibusdam terris quas prius dedit Huberto de Pugeys in eodem manerio, habendum et tenendum eidem Willelmo et hæredibus suis de uxore sua procreatis, bene et in pace, quiete et integre cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus ad eadem pertinentibus, et dicit quod eo warranto habet ipse returnum brevium, et clamat habere placitum de namio vetito.

ET WILLELMUS de Giselham, qui sequitur pro domino rege, dicit quod habere

returam brevium, et tenere placitum de namio vetito pertinet ad coronam et dignitatem domini regis, et quas libertates nemo clamare potest sine warranto speciali domini regis, vel antecessorum suorum, et dicit quod in prædicta charta, quam prædictus Willelmus de Valentia profert, nulla fit mentio de aliquo retorno brevium vel placitorum de namio vetito. Unde petit iudicium pro domino rege.

[ROTULO IX, IN DORSO.]

De juratis et assisis apud Oxon. &c. Fulcon.

WILLELMUS de Valencia, Rogerius de Engepenne, Johannes le bedel de Bampton, et Rogerus de Weston, summoniti fuerunt ad responsum Cecilie de Muscegros, de placito quare prædicti Willelmus et alii averia ipsius Cecilie ceperunt et injuste detinuerunt, et cur et unde queritur quod quum prædicti Willelmus et alii, die Sabbati proxima post festum Sancti Hilarii, anno regni regis nunc undecimo, ceperunt quatuor jumenta ipsius Cecilie in villa de Alvescote et ea fugaverunt usque ad manerium ipsius Willielmi de Bampton, et ea ibidem detinuerunt contra vadium et plegium, a prædicto die usque diem Veneris proximum ante festum Sancti Johannis ante portam Latinam, anno supradicto: quod deliberata fuerunt per breve domini regis ad damnum ipsius Cecilie centum librarum et inde produxit settam, &c.

ET WILLELMUS per attornum suum venit et omnes alii venerunt et defendunt vim et cur et quando, &c. et bene cognoscunt quod ipsi ceperunt prædicta averia et juste, quia dicunt quod tenentes ipsius Cecilie de Alvescot et Aston non venerunt ad visum franciplegii ad curiam ipsius Cecilie de Alvescote et Aston, ubi ballivi dicti Willielmi de Valencia semel in anno post festum Sancti Michaelis tenere debent prædictum visum, amerciaverunt ipsi tenentes prædicti Cecilie pro defalcationibus suis, et ea ratione pro hujus modi amerciamenti distringere fecit, per averia prædicta, et postea concordati sunt et prædicta Cecilia dat dimidium marce pro licentia concordandi, et est concordia talis quod prædicti Willelmus et Cecilia bene cogn. quod ballivi ipsius Willielmi venire debent ad visum francipleg. tenend. de tenentibus ipsius Cecilie de Alvescote et Aston semel in anno, scilicet post festum Sancti Michaelis, et quod ballivi ipsius Willielmi habere debent pro visu prædicto 12 denarios tantum, et prædicta Cecilia et hæredes sui omnia alia amerciamenta de tenentibus venientibus ad prædictum visum habere et percipere debent, &c.

[ROTULO XVI.]

DOMINUS rex per Willelmum de Giselham, qui sequitur pro eo, petit versus Robertum Pogeys 40 libratas terræ cum pertinentiis in Bampton, quas domino regi injuste deforcaverat &c. et unde dicit quod dominus Henricus rex, pater domini regis nunc, tempore pacis fuit inde in seisinâ capiendi inde explete ad valentiam &c.

ET ROBERTUS venit et defendit jus domini regis ut deforcaverat et jure &c. et bene cogn. seisinam domini Henrici regis patris domini regis nunc, sed dicit quod idem dominus Henricus rex dedit prædictam terram euidam Huberto de Pogeys patri ipsius Roberti, cujus hæres ipse est, per chartam suam quam profert et quæ testatur quod dominus Henricus rex, pater domini regis nunc, dedit prædicto Huberto prædictam terram cum pertinentiis, habendam et tenendam sibi et hæredibus suis et suis assignatis in perpetuum. Ideo ad iudicium &c.

[ROTULO XXV.]

Placita coronæ coram Salomone de Roffs, &c. Fulcon.

[ROTULO XLIX IN DORSO.]

Hundred. de Bampton venit pro XII.

[ROTULO LI.]

Adhuc de hundredo de Bampton.....Fulcon.

DE LIBERTATIBUS dicunt quod Willelmus de Valentia tenet hundredum de Bampton quod valet per annum C solidis, et clamat habere retornum et extrac-ta brevium et placitorum de namio vetito, et habet furcam, pillariam et tumberellam et emend. assise panis et cerviciæ et feriam in vigilia et in die Assump-tionis beatæ Mariæ, et mercatum per quemlibet diem Mercurii, et in qualibet septimana, nesciunt quo warranto. Et super hoc venit Willelmus de Giselham qui sequitur pro domino rege, et dicit quod habet brevia de Quo warranto su-per hujusmodi libertates, et similiter Robertus de Grey habet in villa de Herdewick visum franci plegii, furcam, tumberellam, et emend. assisam panis et cervisiæ, et Johannes Maudut, Osbertus Giffard, Johannes de Bosco, et Ro-bertus de Grey, clamant habere mercatum in manerio de Standlake singulis septimanis per diem Veneris et similiter in eodem manerio habet furcam, tum-berellam, pillariam, et emendum assis. panis et cerviciæ, nesciunt quo warranto. Ideo prædictæ libertates, quoad prædictos Robertum de Grey et alios, capiantur in manum domini regis. &c.

VII. INQUISITION OF KING EDWARD II, DATED NOV. 28, AND DEC. 1312.

Among the Records in the custody of the Master of the Rolls pursuant to Stat. 1 and 2 Vict. cap. 94, and preserved in the Tower of London; to wit, Inquisition of the 6th year of King Edward the Second No. 70, it is thus contained :

EDWARDUS, DEI GRATIA REX ANGLIÆ. DOMINUS HIBERNIÆ, ET DUX AQUITANNIÆ DILECTO ET FIDELI SUO ROGERO DE WELLESWORTH ESCAETORI SUO CITRA TRENTAM SALUTEM. MANDAMUS VOBIS quod, per sacramentum proborum et legalium homi-num de balliva vestra, per quos rei veritas melius sciri poterit, diligenter inquiratis si sit ad damnum vel præjudiciū nostrum aut aliorum, si concedamus dilecto et fideli nostro, Roberto Pogeys, quod ipse manerium suum de Estdels cum pertinentiis, et unam carucatam terræ, et tres acras bosci, cum pertinentiis, in Chatham juxta Roffam, in comitatu Kanciæ, quæ de nobis tenentur in capite, ut dicitur, dare possit et concedere Thomæ Pogeys et Benedictæ uxori ejus, habenda et tenenda eisdem Thomæ et Benedictæ, et hæredibus ipsius Thomæ, de corpore suo legitime procreatis, de nobis et hæredibus nostris per servitia inde debita et consueta in perpetuum. Et si idem Thomas obierit sine hærede de corpore suo legiti-me procreato, tunc prædicta, manerium, terra, et boscus, cum pertinentiis, ad præfatum Robertum et hæredes suos integre revertantur, tenenda de nobis et hære-dibus nostris per servitia prædicta in perpetuum, necne. Et si sit ad damnum vel præjudiciū nostrum aut aliorum, tunc ad quod damnum et quod præjudiciū nostrum, et ad quod damnum et quod præjudiciū aliorum, et quorum, et qualiter, et quo modo, et si prædicta, manerium, terra, et boscus, de nobis teneantur in ca-pite, sicut prædictum est, an de alio, et si de nobis, tunc per quod servitium, qua-liter, et quo modo, et si de alio, tunc de quo, vel de quibus, et per quod serviti-um, et qualiter, et quo modo, et quantum valeant per annum, in omnibus exitibus, juxta verum valorem eorundem. Et quæ terræ et quæ tenementa eidem Roberto remaneant, ultra donationem et concessionem prædictas, et ubi, et de quo, vel de quibus teneantur; utrum videlicet de nobis, an de alio, et si de nobis, tunc per quod servitium, et qualiter, et quo modo, et si de alio, tunc de quo, vel de quibus, et per quod servitium, et qualiter, et quo modo, et quantum valeant per annum, in omnibus exitibus.

Et Inquisitionem inde distincte et aperte factam, nobis sub sigillo vestro et sigillis eorum, per quos facta fuerit, sine dilatione mittatis et hoc breve.

Teste me ipso apud Wyndesore, XXVIII die Novembris, anno regni nostri sexto.....Jar.....per ipsum regem.

KANCIA.

INQUISITIO facta coram Escaetore domini regis apud Estdelse, die Martis proxima post festum Sancti Nicolai, anno regni regis Edwardi sexto, per Johannem de Surhewyk, Nicholaum de Woldeham, Robertum de Betlescombe, Gilbertum Gildewyne, Moysem Lacy, Ricardum le Forstier, Johannem Rogier, Johannem atte Halle, Clementem le Chandelier, Robertum le Hayward, Rogerum le Chandelier, et Gilbertum le Hayward. QUI DICUNT per sacramentum suum, quod non est ad damnum vel præjudicium domini regis, aut aliorum, si rex concedat Roberto Pogeys, quod ipse manerium suum de Estdelse cum pertinentiis, et unam carucatam terræ, et tres acras bosci cum pertinentiis, in Chatham juxta Roffam, in comitatu Kancie, dare possit et concedere Thomæ Pogeys et Benedictæ uxori ejus, habenda et tenenda eisdem Thomæ et Benedictæ, et hæredibus ipsius Thomæ, de corpore suo legitime procreatis: et, si idem Thomas obierit sine hærede de corpore legitime procreato, tunc prædicta, manerium, terra, et boscus, cum pertinentiis ad præfatum Robertum et hæredes suos integre revertantur, tenenda de domino rege et hæredibus suis per servitia inde debita et consueta, in perpetuum. ET DICUNT quod prædictum manerium de Estdelse non tenetur de domino rege immediate, sed tenetur de Nicholao de Merwerth, per servitium duorum feodorum Militum et dimidii, et valet per annum in omnibus exitibus XX libras: ET DICUNT quod prædictæ carucata terræ, et tres acræ bosci, cum pertinentiis, in Chatham tenentur de domino rege, ut de castro domini regis de Ledes per servitium quartæ partis feodi unius militis; quod quidem castrum, cum pertinentiis, Margareta regina Angliæ tenet ad terminum vitæ suæ ex assignatione domini Edwardi quondam regis Angliæ, patris regis nunc, et valet terra illa, boscus, per annum in omnibus exitibus X marcas. DICUNT ETIAM quod remanent præfato Roberto, ultra donationem et concessionem prædictas, manerium de Stokepogeys in comitatu Buckingham, quod tenetur de Johanne de Someri per servitium militare, et valet per annum, in omnibus exitibus, C marcas, et medietas manerii de Bampton in comitatu Oxoniæ, quæ tenetur de domino Adamaro de Valencia, comite Pembroke, per servitium militare, et valet per annum, in omnibus exitibus, C marcas.

In cujus rei testimonium prædicti Jurati huic Inquisitioni sigilla sua apposuerunt.

VIII. INQUISITION OF KING EDWARD II, DATED

Dec. 9. and 20, A. D. 1327.

Among the Records in the Custody of the Master of the Rolls, pursuant to Stat. 1 and 2 Vict., cap. 94, and preserved in the Tower of London, to wit, Inquisition of the 20th year of the reign of King Edward the Second, No 11, it is thus contained.

EDWARDUS, Dei gratia Rex Angliæ, et Dominus Hiberniæ, dilecto sibi Thomæ de Harpedene, escaetori suo in comitatibus Wiltes, Southampton, Oxoniæ, Berks, Bedford, et Buckingham, Salutem. MANDAMUS vobis, quod per sacramentum proborum et legalium hominum de balliva vestra, per quos rei veritas melius sciri poterit, diligenter inquiratis, si sit ad damnum vel præjudicium nostrum aut aliorum, si concedamus dilecto et fideli nostro, Ricardo Talebot juniore et

Elizabethæ uxori ejus quod ipsi de maneriis suis de Policote in dicto comitatu Buckingham, Bampton in dicto comitatu Oxoniæ, et C-lingburn in dicto comitatu Wiltes, cum pertinentiis, quæ de nobis tenentur in capite, ut dicitur, feoffare possint dilectum et fidelem nostrum Gilbertum Talebot, et Thomam fratrem ejus, habendis et tenendis sibi et hæredibus suis, de nobis et hæredibus nostris, per servitia inde debita et consueta, in perpetuum. Ita quod iidem Gilbertus et Thomas, habita inde plena et pacifica seisinâ, dare possint et concedere maneria prædicta, cum pertinentiis, præfatis Ricardo et Elizabethæ, habenda et tenenda sibi et hæredibus de corporibus suis exeuntibus, de nobis et hæredibus nostris, per servitia prædicta, in perpetuum: et si idem Ricardus et Elizabetha obierint sine hærede de corporibus suis exeunte, tunc maneria prædicta, cum pertinentiis, rectis hæredibus prædicti Ricardi remaneant, tenenda de nobis et hæredibus nostris, per servitia prædicta, in perpetuum, necne: et si sit ad damnum vel præjudicium nostrum aut aliorum, tunc ad quod damnum, et quod præjudicium nostrum, et ad quod damnum, et quod præjudicium aliorum, et quorum, et qualiter, et quo modo, et utrum maneria prædicta, cum pertinentiis, teneantur de nobis in capite, sicut prædictum est, an de alio; et si de nobis, tunc per quod servitium, et qualiter, et quo modo; et si de alio, tunc de quo, vel de quibus, et per quod servitium, et qualiter, et quo modo, et quantum valeant per annum in omnibus exitibus, juxta verum valorem eorundem, et si quæ terræ et tenementa præfatis Ricardo et Elizabethæ remaneant ultra maneria prædicta, et ubi, et de quo, vel de quibus teneantur, utrum videlicet de nobis, an de alio, et si de nobis, tunc per quod servitium, et qualiter, et quo modo, et si de alio, tunc de quo, vel de quibus, et per quod servitium, et qualiter, et quo modo, et quantum valeant per annum in omnibus exitibus. Et inquisitionem, inde distincte et aperte factam, nobis sub sigillo vestro et sigillis eorum, per quos facta fuerit, sine dilatione mittatis et hoc breve.

Teste me ipso apud Kenilworth, IX die Decembris, anno regni nostri vicesimo.

[In dorso: per custodem sigilli.]

OXONIA.

INQUISITIO capta coram Thoma de Harpeden, escætoze domini regis in comitatibus Wiltes, Southampton, Oxoniæ, Berks, Bedford, et Buckingham; vicesimo die Decembris, apud Bampton, anno regni regis Edwardi filii regis Edwardi vicesimo, per sacramentum Johannis Richeman, Henrici de Fifhide, Roberti de Brittelee, Johannis Bremond, Johannis de Calveston, Johannis de Everestoke, Nicholai Fynh., Johannis Bryn, Willielmi Dun, Johannis de Fernhull, Johannis de Lewe, Adam le Rok., Johannis Muscath, et Nicholai Bilon. Qui dicunt super sacramentum suum, quod non est ad damnum nec præjudicium domini regis aut aliorum, licet dominus rex concedat Ricardo Talebot, juniori, et Elizabethæ uxori ejus, quod ipsi de manerio de Bampton in comitatu Oxoniæ, cum pertinentiis, feoffare possint Gilbertum Talbot et Thomam, fratrem ejus, habendo et tenendo sibi et hæredibus suis, de domino rege et hæredibus suis, per servitia inde debita et consueta, in perpetuum. Ita quod iidem Gilbertus et Thomas, habita inde plena et pacifica seisinâ, dare possint et concedere manerium prædictum, cum pertinentiis præfatis, Ricardo et Elizabethæ, habendum et tenendum, sibi, et hæredibus de corporibus suis exeuntibus, de domino rege et hæredibus suis, per servitia inde debita et consueta in perpetuum. Et si idem Ricardus et Elizabetha obierint sine hærede de corporibus suis exeunte, tunc prædictum manerium, cum pertinentiis rectis hæredibus prædicti Ricardi remaneat tenendum de domino rege et hæredibus suis per servitia prædicta in perpetuum.

DICUNT etiam quod manerium de Bampton tenetur de domino rege in capite per homagium et fidelitatem, et per servitium unius feodi militis pro omni servitio.

Item dicunt quod prædictum manerium de Bampton valet per annum, in

omnibus exitibus, juxta verum valorem ejusdem, quadriaginta libras. *ITEM* dicunt quod nullæ terræ seu tenementa remanent præfatis Ricardo et Elizabethæ in comitatu Oxoniæ ultra manerium prædictum de Ba:pton.

IN cujus rei testimonium prædicti jurati sigilla sua apposuerunt.

IX. INQUISITION OF KING EDWARD III, DATED JAN. 26,
A. D. 1329.

Among the Records in the Custody of the Master of the Rolls, pursuant to Stat. 1 and 2 Vict., cap. 94, and preserved in the Tower of London, to wit, Inquisition of the 2nd year of the reign of King Edward the Third, [1st nrs.] No. 37, it is thus contained.

EDWARDUS, Dei gratia rex Angliæ, Dominus Hiberniæ, et dux Aquitanniæ, dilecto et fideli suo Simoni de Beresford., escaetori suo ultra Trentam, salutem. *QUIA* Robertus de Eleford, qui de nobis tenuit in capite, diem clausit extremum, ut accepimus, vobis mandamus, quod omnes terras et tenementa, de quibus idem Robertus fuit seiscitus, in dominico suo, ut de feodo, in balliva vestra, die quo obiit, sine dilatione capiatis in manum nostram, et ea salvo custodiri faciatis, donec aliud inde præceperimus. *ER* per sacramentum proborum et legalium hominum de balliva vestra, per quos rei veritas melius sciri poterit, diligenter inquiratis, quantum terræ idem Robertus tenuit de nobis in capite in balliva vestra, die quo obiit, et quantum de aliis, et per quod servitium, et quantum terræ illæ valeant per annum in omnibus exitibus, et quis propinquior hæres ejus sit, et cujus ætatis. *ER* inquisitionem, inde distincte et aperte factam, nobis sub sigillo vestro, et sigillis eorum per quos facta fuerit, sine dilatione mittatis, et hoc breve.

TESTE me ipso apud Eborum, XXVI die Januarii, anno regni nostri secundo.

[*IN* DORSO: Oxonia]

OXONIA.

INQUISITIO capta coram Simone Beresforde, Escaetore domini regis citra Trentam, apud Eleverde, quartodecimo die Februarii, anno regni regis Edwardi Tertii post conquestum secundo, juxta tenorem brevis domini regis huic Inquisitioni consuti, per sacramentum Johannis de Carsewelle, Stephani de Crotebrugg, Henrici de Graftone, Johannis de Erlestoke, Johannis de Stoke, Henrici de Fifide, Johannis de Fernhulle, Johannis Richeman, Johannis Evermond, Adæ le Parker, Ricardi Stonhard, Johannis de Lyvorde, et Johannis de Lewe. *QUI* DICUNT quod Robertus de Eleverde obiit die Martis proxima ante festum Sanctorum Fabiani et Sebastiani, seiscitus in dominico suo, ut de feodo, de quibusdam tenementis, cum pertinentiis, in Cote et Astone, in comitatu Oxoniæ, et est ibi unum messuagium, quod valet per annum XX denarios. *ITEM* sunt ibidem 52 acræ terræ in dominico, quæ valent per annum, 8 solidos 8 denarios, pretium acræ 2 denarii. *ITEM* sunt ibidem 6 acræ prati, quæ valent per annum 6 solidos, pretium acræ 12 denarii. *ITEM* sunt ibidem quinque Nativi, qui reddunt per annum 14 solidos solvendo ad quatuor anni terminos, videlicet ad festum Sancti Michaelis, Sancti Thomæ apostoli, Annunciationis beatæ Mariæ, et festum Sancti Johannis Baptistæ, per æquales portiones. *ET* opera eorundem Nativorum, ad prata falcanda et blada metenda, valent per annum 2 solidos 11 denarios. *ITEM* sunt ibidem tres Coterelli, qui reddunt per annum 6 solidos solvendo ad prædicta festa, per æquales portiones. *ITEM* dicunt, quod prædicta terræ et tenementa in Cote et Astone tenentur de domino rege in capite per servitium essendi cum arcu et sagittis, sive aliqua alia armatura, in qua-

libet guerra domini regis, infra regnum suum, per quadraginta dies ad costum suum proprium. ITEM dicunt quod idem Robertus tenuit die supradicto in Lewe, in prædicto comitatu Oxoniæ, duos liberos tenentes, qui reddunt per annum 8 solidos 9 denarios solvendo ad festum Sancti Michaelis 4 solidos, 9 denarios, et ad festum Annunciationis beatæ Mariæ Virginis 4 solidos, pro omni servitio. ITEM sunt ibidem duo Nativi, qui reddunt per annum 6 solidos, solvendo ad festa Sancti Thomæ Apostoli, Annunciationis beatæ Mariæ, et Sancti Johannis Baptistæ, per æquales portiones. Et opera eorundem duorum Nativorum, ad prata falcanda et blada metenda, valent 16 denarios.

ITEM dicunt quod prædicta terræ et tenementa in Lewe tenentur de domino rege in capite, per servitium portandi unum ostorium coram domino rege, quum dominus rex voluerit, ad costos domini regis. ITEM dicunt, quod idem Robertus tenuit die supradicta, apud Eleverde, in prædicto comitatu Oxoniæ, unum messuagium cum gardino, quæ valent per annum 2 denarios. ITEM sunt ibidem 40 acræ terræ in dominico, quæ valent per annum 6 solidos, 8 denarios, pretium acræ 2 denarii. ITEM sunt ibidem sex acræ prati, quæ valent per annum 6 solidos, pretium acræ 12 denarii. ITEM sunt ibidem tres Coterelli, qui reddunt per annum 4 solidos, 1 denarium, solvendo ad prædicta quatuor festa, per æquales portiones, et opera eorundem, ad blada metenda, valent per annum 10 denarios. ITEM dicunt quod prædicta, terræ et tenementa, tenentur de Johanne de Grey, Roberto de Morby, et Rolando de Hastings, per servitium 10 solidorum per annum. ITEM dicunt quod Robertus de Eleverde, filius Roberti de Eleverde defuncti, est propinquior hæres ejus: et est ætatis viginti quinque annorum, et amplius.

In cujus rei testimonium prædicti jurati huic Inquisitioni sigilla sua apposuerunt.

Data die, anno, et loco, supradictis.

X. GRANT OF FREE-WARREN TO RICHARD TALBOT, DATED 14 EDWARD III, APRIL 10, A. D. 1341.

Among the Records in the custody of the Master of the Rolls, pursuant to Stat. 1 and 2 Vict., cap. 94, and preserved in the Tower of London, to wit, Charter-Roll of the 14th year of the reign of King Edward the Third, No 37, it is thus contained.

PRO RICARDO REX EISDEM, [ARCHIEPISCOPIS, EPISCOPIS, ABBATIBUS, TALEBOT DE PRIORIBUS, COMITIBUS, BARONIBUS, JUSTITIARIIS, VICECOMITIBUS, PRÆPOSITIS, MINISTRIS ET OMNIBUS BALLIVIS ET FIDELIBUS SUI] SALUTEM. SCIATIS NOS de gratia nostra speciali concessisse, et hac charta nostra confirmasse dilecto et fideli nostro Ricardo Talebot, quod ipse et hæredes sui in perpetuum habeant liberam warennam, in omnibus dominicis terris suis de Bampton, in comitatu Oxoniæ, et Polycote in comitatu Buckingham, ne Godrych Castel in marchiis Walliæ, dum tamen terræ illæ non sint infra metas forestæ nostræ. ITA quod nullus intret terras illas ad fugandum in eis, vel ad aliquid capiendum, quod ad warennam pertineat, sine licentia et voluntate ipsius Ricardi, vel hæredum suorum, super forisfacturam nostram decem librarum. QUARE volumus &c. Dum tamen &c. ITA &c. His testibus, Venerabilibus Patribus J. Cantuariensi archiepiscopo, totius Angliæ primate, R. Dunelmensi et S. Eliensi episcopis, Johanne de Warennam comite Surriæ, Willielmo de Bohun comite Northampton, Henrico de Percy, Johanne Darcy senescalco hospitii nostri, et aliis.

Data per manum nostram apud Westmonasterium, X^o die Aprilis. [Per breve de privato sigillo.]

XI. INQUISITION OF 30th EDW. III, OCT. 20 AND NOV. 20,
A. D. 1357.

Among the Records in the custody of the Master of the Rolls, pursuant to Stat. 1 and 2 Vict. cap. 94, and preserved in the Tower of London; to wit, Inquisition of the 30th year of the reign of King Edward the Third [1st nrs.] No. 51, it is thus contained:

EDWARDUS, DEI GRATIA REX ANGLIÆ ET FRANCIÆ, ET DOMINUS HIBERNIÆ, DILECTO SIBI JOHANNI LAUNDELS, ESCÆTORI SUO IN COMITATIBUS OXONIÆ ET BERKS., SALUTEM. QUIA Ricardus Talbot, qui de nobis tenuit in capite, diem clausit extremum, ut accepimus, tibi præcipimus, quod omnes terras et tenementa, de quibus idem Ricardus fuit seiscitus, in dominico suo ut de feodo, in balliva tua, die quo obiit, sine dilatione capias in manum nostram, et ea salvo custodiri facias, donec aliud inde præceperimus. Et per sacramentum proborum et legalium hominum de balliva tua, per quos rei veritas melius sciri poterit, diligenter inquiras, quantum terræ idem Ricardus tenuit de nobis in capite, tam in dominico quam in servitio, in balliva tua, die quo obiit, et quantum de aliis, et per quod servitium, et quantum terræ illæ valeant per annum in omnibus exitibus, et quis propinquior hæres ejus sit et cujus ætatis. Et Inquisitionem, inde distincte et aperte factam, nobis sub sigillo tuo, et sigillis eorum per quos facta fuerit, sine dilatione mittas et hoc breve.

Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterium, XXX die Octobris, anno regni nostri Angliæ tricesimo, regni vero nostri Franciæ decimo septimo. Hanc.

[In dorso] Executio et responsio istius brevis patent in Inquisitione huic brevi consueta.

INQUISITIO facta apud Bampton coram Johanne Launde's escaetore domini regis in comitatu Oxoniæ, vicesimo quinto die Novembris, anno regni regis Edwardi tertii a conquestu Angliæ tricesimo, et Franciæ decimo septimo, juxta tenorem brevis domini regis huic inquisitioni consuti, per sacramentum Radulphi de Frete-welle, Johannis Car de, Johannis Crok., Laurentii de la Penne, Johannis de Stoke, Thomæ Turfray, Johannis Bernard, Stacii Rokaille, Rogeri Blaket, Willielmi Malyn, Johannis Whytefeld, et Eliæ atte Bolde.

QUI DICUNT, per sacramentum suum, quod Ricardus Talbot Chivaler non fuit seiscitus in dominico suo, ut de feodo, die quo obiit, de aliquibus terris seu tenementis in comitatu prædicto, eo quod prædictus Ricardus Talbot, per licentiam domini regis, concessit Thomæ Talbot clerico, Johanni Carrew Chivaler et Johanni Laundels, sexto die Julii, anno regni prædicti regis Angliæ vicesimo nono, manerium de Bampton cum pertinentiis in comitatu prædicto, habendum et tenendum ad terminum vitæ prædictorum Thomæ Talbot, Johannis Carrew et Johannis Laundels de domino rege et hæredibus suis per servitia inde debita et consueta. Et dicunt quod prædictus Ricardus Talbot obiit XXIII^o die Octobris ultimo præterito. Et dicunt quod Gilbertus Talbot filius ipsius Ricardi Talbot est hæres ejus propinquior, ætatis XXIII^o annorum et amplius.

In cujus rei testimonium prædicti jurati huic Inquisitioni sigilla sua apposuerunt. DATA die, loco, et anno supradictis.

XII. INQUISITION OF THE 36th OF EDW. III, NOV. 16, AND
DEC. 21, A. D. 1365.

Among the Records in the custody of the Master of the Rolls, pursuant to Stat. 1 and 2 Vict. cap. 94, and preserved in the Tower of London, to wit, Inquisition of the 36th year of the reign of King Edward the Third, p. 2, [1st nrs.] No. 54 (b), it is thus contained:

EDWARDUS, Dei gratia Rex Angliæ, dominus Hiberniæ et Aquitanniæ, dilecto sibi Johanni de Estbury Escaetori suo in comitatu Oxoniæ, Salutem. QUIA Tho-

mas Talbot clericus, qui de nobis tenuit in capite, diem clausit extremum, ut accepimus, tibi præcipimus quod omnes terras et tenementa, de quibus idem Thomas fuit seis tus in dominico suo, ut de feodo, in balliva tue, die quo obiit, sine dilatione capias in manum nostram, et ea salvo custodiri facias donec aliud inde præceperimus. Et per sacramentum proborum et legalium hominum de balliva tua, per quos rei veritas melius sciri poterit, diligenter inquiras quantum terræ idem Thomas tenuit de nobis in capite, tam in dominico quam in servitio, in balliva tua, die quo obiit, et quantum de aliis, et per quod servitium, et quantum terræ illæ valeant per annum, in omnibus exitibus, et quo die idem Thomas obierit, et quis propinquior hæres ejus sit, et cujus ætatis. Et Inquisitionem, inde distincte et aperte factam, nobis sub sigillo tuo, et sigillis eorum, per quos [facta] fuerit, sine dilatione mittas, et hoc breve.

Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterium XVI die Novembris anno regni nostri tricesimo sexto. BURSTALL.

[IN DORSO]

Ego Johannes de Estbury, Escætor domini regis in comitatu Oxoniæ, ad istud breve vobis respondeo, prout patet in Inquisitione huic consuta.

OXONIA.

INQUISITIO facta apud Bampton in comitatu Oxoniæ, XXI die Decembris, anno regni regis Edwardi Tertii post conquestum tricesimo sexto, coram Johanne de Estbury, Escætoe domini regis in comitatu prædicto, virtute cujusdam brevis dicti domini regis, eidem Escætori directi, et huic Inquisitioni consuti, per sacramentum Johannis Stokes, Johannis Chaumberleyn, Thomæ Batyn, Joannis Fernhull, Walteri Crok, Willielmo Lomenour, Johannis Child, Johannis Freman, Joh. Moschet, Johannis Lokyere, Ricardi atte Dich, et Joh. Deighe. Qui dicunt quod Thomæ Talbot, clericus, defunctus, non tenuit aliqua, terras seu tenementa in dominico suo, ut de feodo, de domino rege in capite, nec de aliis, in comitatu prædicto, die quo obiit. Sed dicunt quod idem Thomas tenuit ad terminum vite sue, die quo obiit, nuper conjunctim ieffatus cum Johanne de Carreu et Johanne Laundels, defunctis, ex dimissione Ricardi Talbot militis, defuncti, de hæreditate Gilberti Talbot, filii prædicti Ricardi, adhuc superstitis, manerium de Bampton, cum pertinentiis in eodem comitatu de domino rege in capite, per servitium unius feodi militis, de licentia domini regis per chartam suam. In quo quidem manerio sunt diversa edificia, quæ nihil valent per annum ultra reprisas domorum. Est ibidem unum gardinum, quod valet per annum II solidos, et unum columbare quod valet per annum II solidos. Sunt ibidem tres carucatæ terræ, continentes in se CXCVI acras, unde duæ partes possunt quolibet anno seminari, et valet acra, quando seminatur, per annum IV denarios, et tertia pars nihil valet, quia jacet ad Warectum, et in communi, et ibidem LX acræ prati separalis, a festo Purificationis beatæ Mariæ usque fænum inde levatum, et postea in communi, et valet acra XII denarios per annum, et unum molendinum aquaticum, quod valet per annum XX solidos, et ibidem quædam pastura separalis, a festo Annunciationis beatæ Mariæ usque festum Sancti Michaelis, quæ valet per idem tempus XIII solidos, IV denarios; et postea nihil valet, quia jacet in communi, et ibidem quidam redditus gallorum et gallinarum vocatus Churshet, qui valet per annum VI solidos, VIII denarios, solvendos ad festum Sancti Martini; et ibidem quidam redditus XL solidorum vocatus Candelmassyeve solvendus ad festum Purificationis beatæ Mariæ, et ibidem quidam redditus V solidorum, vocatus hertpeny, solvendus ad festum Pentecostes. Et sunt ibidem diversi tenentes quorum redditus et servitia valent per annum XXVI libras II solidos, solvendi inde, ad festum Sancti Thomæ Apostoli LXXI solidi, ad festum Annunciationis Beatæ Mariæ IV libræ, XIII solidi, IV denarii, ad festum natalis beati Johannis Baptistæ VII libræ, XVII denarii, et ad festum Sancti Michaelis, XI libræ, VIII denarii. Et visus

franci plegii ibidem, ad terminos de Hockeday et Sancti Michaelis, valet C solidos. Et placita et perquisita hundredi, halmotæ, tolneti, et mercati ibidem valent per annum XXXIII solidos, IV denarios. Et dicunt quod reversio dicti manerii de Bampton spectat ad præfatum Gilbertum Talbot, filium et hæredem præfati Ricardi Talbot defuncti, adhuc superstitem, et hæredes suos; qui quidem Gilbertus est ætatis XXVIII annorum et amplius. Et dicunt quod prædictus Thomas obiit XIV^o die Octobris ultimo præterito, et quod dictus Gilbertus, filius et hæres præfati Ricardi Talbot, filii et hæredis Gilberti Talbot, fratris prædicti Thomæ defuncti, est hæres ejusdem Thomæ propinquior, et plenæ ætatis, ut prædictum est. In cujus rei testimonium, prædicti jurati huic Inquisitioni sigilla sua apposuerunt.

Data loco, die, et anno, supradictis.

XIII. INQUISITION OF THE 41st OF EDW. III, MAY 16, AND
OCT. 5, A. D. 1367.

Among the Records in the Custody of the Master of the Rolls, pursuant to Stat. 1 and 2 Vict., cap. 94, and preserved in the Tower of London, to wit, Inquisition of the 41st year of the reign of King Edward the Third, (2nd nrs) No 1, it is thus contained :

EDWARDUS, Dei gratia Rex Angliæ, dominus Hiberniæ et Aquitaniæ, dilecto sibi Johanni de Evesham, Escaetori suo in comitatu Oxoniæ, Salutem. PRÆCIPIMUS tibi quod, per sacramentum proborum et legalium hominum de balliva tua, per quos rei veritas melius sciri poterit, diligenter inquiras, si sit ad damnum vel præjudicium nostrum aut aliorum si concedamus Edmundo de Elford, quod ipse quinque messuagia et quatuor virgatas terræ, cum pertinentiis, in Astone, juxta Bampton, et Lewe, quæ de Roberto de Elford, qui illa de nobis tenuit in capite, ut dicitur, eidem Edmundo ad vitam suam adquisivit, licentia nostra super hoc non obtenta, retinere possit et habere, ad totam vitam suam de nobis et hæredibus nostris, per servitia inde debita et consueta, necne: et si sit ad damnum vel præjudicium nostrum, aut aliorum, tunc ad quod damnum, et quod præjudicium nostrum, et ad quod damnum, et quod præjudicium aliorum, et quorum, et qualiter, et quo modo. Et, si messuagia et terra prædicta, teneantur de nobis in capite, ut prædictum est, an de alio; et, si de nobis, tunc per quod servitium, et qualiter, et quo modo; et si de alio, tunc de quo, vel de quibus, et per quod servitium, et qualiter, et quo modo, et quantum messuagia et terra prædicta valeant per annum, in omnibus exitibus, juxta verum valorem eorundem. Et si quæ terræ et tenementa eidem Edmundo remaneant, ultra messuagia et terram prædicta, tunc quæ terræ et quæ tenementa, et ubi, et de quo, vel de quibus teneantur, utrum videlicet de nobis, an de alio, et si de nobis, tunc per quod servitium et qualiter, et quo modo; et si de alio, tunc de quo, vel de quibus, et per quod servitium, et qualiter, et quo modo, et quantum valeant per annum in omnibus exitibus. Et Inquisitionem, inde distincte et aperte factam, nobis, in Cancellariam Nostram, sub sigillo tuo et sigillis eorum per quos facta fuerit, sine dilatione mittas, et hoc breve.

Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterium, XVI die Maii, anno regni nostri quadragesimo primo. FOLKYNGH.

INQUISITIO facta apud Wytteneye, in comitatu Oxoniæ, quinto die Octobris, anno regni Regis Edwardi Tertii post Conquestum quadragesimo primo, coram Johanne de Evesham, Escaetore domini regis in comitatu prædicto, virtute dicti domini regis eidem escaetori directi, et præsentibus consuti, per sacramentum Johannis de Stokes, Thomæ Gostard, Willielmi Haddon, Thomas Batyn, Henrici Torpheray, Willielmi Somenour, Johannis Pece, Johannis Greyndere, Johannis Freman, Willielmi Cok, Johannis Nel, et Thomæ Taillour, oneratorum et juratorum super articulis, in dicto brevi contentis. QUI DICUNT, per sacramentum suum, quod non est ad damnum nec præjudicium domini regis seu aliorum, licet dominus rex concedat Edmundo de Eleford, quod ipse quinque messuagia et quatuor virgatas terræ cum pertinentiis, in Astone, juxta Bampton,

et Lewe, quæ de Roberto de Eleford, qui illa de domino rege tenuit in capite, eidem Edmundo, ad vitam suam adquisivit, licentia domini regis super hoc non obtenta, retinere possit et habere, ad totam vitam suam, de domino rege et hæredibus suis, per servitia inde debita et consueta. Et dicunt quod dictæ tria messuagia et tres virgatæ terræ, cum pertinentiis de prædictis quinque messuagiis IV virgatis terræ sunt in Astone, juxta Bampton, et tenentur de domino rege in capite, per servitium, ad inveniendum unum hominem, cum arcu et sagittis, per quadraginta dies, in exercitu suo, in Anglia, et Wallia, tempore guerræ sumptibus suis propriis. Et dicunt quod dictæ II messuagia et III virgatæ terræ valent per annum, in omnibus exitibus suis, XXX solidos. Et dicunt, quod duo messuagia et una virgata terræ sunt in Lewe et tenentur de domino rege in capite, per servitium ad portandum unum falconem lancearium domini regis. Et dicunt quod dicta messuagia et terræ in Lewe valent per annum, in omnibus exitibus, juxta verum valorem eorundem III solidos IV denarios.

ITEM dicunt quod remanent eidem Edmundo, ultra messuagia et terram prædicta, unum messuagium et dimidia virgata terræ, cum pertinentiis, in Eleford, quæ tenentur de Johanne Grey milite, ut de manerio suo de Herdwyk, per servitium annui redditus II solidorum. Et dicunt quod dictæ messuagia et terræ valent per annum, ultra reprisas, II solidos. ITEM dicunt, quod dictus Edmundus tenet unam virgatam et dimidia terræ arabilis, cum pertinentiis, in villa de Standlake, quæ tenentur de feodo Aumarle, per servitium militare. Et quod dictæ terræ valent per annum in omnibus exitibus, juxta verum valorem eorundem, VI solidos, VIII denarios.

In cujus rei testimonium sigilla prædictorum juratorum præsentibus sunt appensa.

Data loco, die, et anno supradictis.

XIV. EXTRACT—21st EDWARD IV, APRIL 6, 1481.

From the title-deeds belonging to T. Williams esq. Cowley Grove, Uxbridge.

ASTON IN AD curiam ibidem tentam die Veneris, sexto die Aprilis, anno BAMPTON regis Edwardi Quarti vicesimo primo, irrotulatur sic: "AD hanc curiam venit Ricardus Williams, et cepit de domino unum messuagium, unum toftum et duas dimidias virgatas terræ cum suis pertinentiis, vocatas Doddes et Wilderes, habenda et tenenda sibi et suis secundum consuetudines manerii, per redditum, onera, consuetudines, et servitia inde prius debita et de jure consueta: Et dat domino de fine, tam pro licentia faciendi subtenementum, quam pro tali ingressu inde habendo, XX denarios, proviso semper quod dabit domino, nomine heriotti, quum acciderit, XX denarios: Et fecit fidelitatem, et admissus est inde tenens."

XV. EXTRACT FROM HENRY VIII'S GRANT OF THE LANDS OF ENSHAM ABBEY TO EDWARD NORTH.

A. D. 1543.

This grant is printed entire, together with the value of all the lands mentioned therein, in Dugdale's Monasticon Anglicanum, Vol. III, p. 27, from MS. Cotton, Nero C ix, fol. 158.

REX OMNIBUS &c. SCIATIS quod nos, in consideratione veri, fidelis, et acceptabilis servitii dilecti servientis nostri Edwardi Northe militis, thesaurarii curiæ nostræ augmentationum reventionum coronæ nostræ, nobis antehac multipliciter impensi, de gratia nostra speciali ac ex certa scientia et mero motu nostris, dedimus et concessimus, ac per præsentem damus et concedimus præfato Edwardo Northe totum dominum et situm nuper monasterii de Eynesham, alias dicti Ensham &c. maneria nostra de Shyfforde,Bamptonpro prædicto manerio de Shyfford et cæteris præmissis cum suis pertinentiis in Shyfford et Bampton prædict. &c.

TESTE rege apud Terlynge, XVIIo die Julii, anno regis Henrici octavi XXXVo.

MANERIUM DE SHEFFORDE valet in Redd. assis. tam librorum et custum tenen. in Shelforde, Cote, Aston, Ducklington, et Stanlake, quam firm. scitus manerii cum terr. dominical. eidem pertin. modo dimiss. cuidam Stokes per indentur. pro termino annorum, necnon in profic. et perquis. cur. ibidem communibus annis XX III. XI. XII.

Mis. et repris. Annual. Xma domino regi reservat. per annum, XLVs. II. Et sic valet clar. per annum, XII. XXII.

XVI. A CATALOGUE OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL CURIOSITIES, WITHIN THE COUNTY OF OXFORD.

[From an ancient MS. in the Lansdowne Collection (No. 905, f. 41.) in the British Museum. This curious Document appears, from the orthography and style of penmanship, to have been written in the seventeenth Century.

IN THE HEAVENS AND AIR,

Two spurious Suns near the true one, seen about three years since at Ensham,
The tempest called Prester, happened near Oxon, Anno 1616.

An Echo repeating 10 words distinctly in Woodstock Park.

WATERS.

SULPHUREOUS, at Dedington and at Brule in Idbury.

CHALYBEAT, but weak, at Shipton Under Whichwood.

Waters, that take not soap, or will brew, at Thame.

Waters, tasting like Milk, at Wardington.

A spring that breaks forth but now and then, at Assenton.

Petrifying Waters, at North Aston, Barton le Tham, Somerton.

A salt spring at Clifton near Dedington.

Fountains remarkably cold in summer and hot in winter, the former at Rollington, the latter at Shottover Forest.

A small cataract at Somerton.

Rivuli subterranei, at Heddington, Shottover Forest.

Water-works at Engton, and Hanwell.

EARTHS, SANDS, CLAYS, &c.

Bituminous Earths or Peats at Barton Letham, Thame, Cowley.

Earth for fuller's use, Stanton-Harcourt.

A sorte of marle at Merton.

Earth for Potter's use (but not very good) at Marsh Balden and Nuneham Courtney.

Tobacco Pipe Clay at Shottover Forest.

An anonymous very white Earth like crude Alabaster, at Teynton.

A sort of earth called Lamén, Ibid.

Which-earth, at Thame, Waterperry, Adwell.

Gypsum nativum (ut puto) Plinii, at Milton, Great Tew, Stansfield.

An aluminous Earth, at Ducklington.

Stone-yellow and Clay-yellow oker, at Shottover Forest.

A coarser sort of yellow oker, at Garsington.

Another yellow oker, at Ducklington.

Clay mixt with a shining Grit, at Hampton-Gay.

A coarse dark Umber, at Bladon.

A light and finer Umber at Waterperry.

A white fine Sand, at Finstock.

A sort of Sand, sold by Retaile at 20 sh: per bushel, at Kingham.

Good Coal, but the bedds not above 4 or 5 inches thick at Kidlington.

Lignum fossile, at Ducklington, Wootton.

Damps of the earth very mortall, at North Leigh.

A considerable prospect from a hill, a mile North East of Teynton, where 10 mercat-towns may be seen in a clear day.

A cave in the earth, called Ainket-hole, near Cornbury.

STONES.

Free Stones, at Burford, Cornbury-Park, Heddington, Teynton.

Slat-stone for mounds, Bradwell.
 Slat-stone, for covering Houses, Stansfield.
 Best fire- and weather-stone at Teynton and Hornton.
 Grave stones, Ibid.
 Ragg-stones at Charleton.
 Ragget or Maume, at Whitfield, Stoke-Talmage.
 Marble, at Blechington.
 Mill stones for the Oil Mills, Ibid.
 The Golden Pyrites, at Cleydon ; Silver at Clifton.
 Lapis Schestus (ut puto) at Fyfield.
 A sorte of Iron-stone, at Thame.
 Fluores, spars, in almost every quarry.
 Lapis (ut puto) calaminaris, at Fyfield.
 Globuli coloris ferrei, ponderosi,—læves, granulati, at Cornwell.
 Lapis Sardius, at Dorchester,
 Cos naturaliter formata, at Heath.
 Lithoxylum, Nuneham Courtney.
 Transparent pebles, at Kidlington, Hanwell.
 Smiris at Whateley.
 Mугers, scirpi petrificati at North-Aston.

FORMED STONES.

To ye likenes of Cockles, Glympton, Teynton : Oysters, Oxford : Muscles Alkerton.

Asteria, at Claydon, Sæwerford.
 Astroites at Heddington, Steeple-Barton.
 Ophiomorphites at Sandford, Cuddesden, Thame.
 Cochleomorphites at Adderbury, Langley.
 Ostreomorphites, at Shottover forest.
 Hippocephaloides, at Heddington.
 Dyorchis, at Shottover.
 Triorchis, Ibid.
 Stelechites pyramidalis, at Heddington.
 Schelites, at Shottover.
 Bucardites reticulati, at Shetford.
 Bucardites costatus, At Brize-Norton.
 Cornu Ammonis, at Oxon.
 Otites, Heddington, Sommerton.
 Chama, at Great Heddington, Great Rowright.
 Chama sideroides, at Thame.
 Echinites primus Aldrovandi, at Cowley.
 Echinites magnus Aldrovandi, at Tangle, Fulbrook, Burford.
 Lapis Judaicus fæmineus, at Heddington.
 Stalagmites, at Thame, Kircklington.
 Pisolithos, at Rey-brooke.
 Fungites, at Heddington.
 Silex conicus at Lewknor.
 Lapides, in quibus aves effigiatae, at Wardington.
 Lapis Mamillaris, at Lewknor.
 Belemnites, colore cinereo, at Deddington ; cæruleo, at Great Rowright.
 Lapis acetabulum referens, at Lewknor.
 Lapides lineati, at Coombe, Cherlbury.
 Silex margam continens, Lewknor.
 Ossa humana petrificata, at Cornwell.
 Lapis specularis, Rhomboides, at Heddington.
 Stone sealed like a Sigle, found in the middle of a block of coal, at Cornwell.
 Ophthalmites, at Oxon.
 AmmitesGesneri, at Oxon.

Lapidis Lyncei species, at St. Clement's.

TREES AND PLANTS, DISCOVERED, UNKNOWN BEFORE AT THE PHYSIC-GARDEN.

A Hawthorn, with white Berrys, at Bampton,

A sort of Elme, with very narrow leaves, at Hanwell.

The hundred Pound peare, at Standlake.

The peare of Paradise, at Latchford.

—Both these bear twice per Annum.

Helleborine angusti-folia montana, flore intus nonnihil candicante, at Lewkner-hill.

Triticum caule rubro, at Sydenham, Sandford.

Mixt Lammas Wheat, at Crowell.

Triticum bispicatum : *Hordeum hexspicatum* at Fulbrooke.

Hordeum præcox, at Gaunt-house in North-moore.

OTHER TREES AND PLANTS, NOT ORDINARY, FOUND IN THE
COUNTY OF OXON.

A great spreading Oake, from bough's end to bough's end 108 feet, in circumference 324, at Rycot.

Another Oake, from bough's end to bough's end 81 feet, in circumference 243, at Nuneham Courtney.

A great old Elme, in Magdalen College Grove, barked quite round for many years, yet lives.

An Oake, that foretels the birth of the next heire, and death of the present possessor, of Ricot, in the Park.

A hawthorn with reddish blossoms in Whichwood forest.

Fraxinus eleganter contorta, at Bisseter.

Other Ash-trees remarkable in their growth, *Ibid*.

UNUSUAL GRAINS SOWNE IN OXFORDSHIRE.

1. Carthamus, or Bastard-Saffron, commonly called the SCARLET-FLOWER, at North-Aston.

2. Ray-Grass sowne with good success, about Kidlington and Islip.

3. Dills, a good improvement of light stone brush-land, at Steeple-Barton et alibi.

4. Carraways, sowne with good success, about Bampton and Clanfield, that one pound of theirs equals two from London in value.

ANIMALS, WITH THINGS ON USUAL [UNUSUAL] ATTENDING THEM.

Ludovicus's Bees, at C. C. C., Oxon.

A water-insect, bred within a stone, called a stone-caddis, at Cornwell.

No Snakes ever seen in Oxfordshire, North of Woodstock.*

A monstrous chick with 4 legs and 4 wings at Waterstock.

Upupa, the whooping bird, at Forrest-Hill, Cassington.

The yellow hickall at Weston on the green.

A white Linnet, at Deddington.

A sort of Chub, peculiar to the river Evenlode, exceeding, at least equalling the Pearch and Tench in goodness, at Shipton Under Whichwood.

Fossile Eeles at Eynsham.

Fresh-water Muscles, much bigger than the sea ones, at Shottover Forest, Bradwell, Stanton St. John's

Two salmons, the one something above, the other something under, a yard in length, caught in a small brook that a man may easily step over, not above one furlong from the spring-head, about 200 miles from the river's mouth, at Lillings-ton Lovell.

A Hog, almost 13 hands high, at Upper Tadmerton.

A monstrous Greyhound, begotten between an Irish Greyhound and an English Mastiff, at Sir Timothy Tyrrel's.

‡ An argument this that the climate is cold, damp, and barren.

A cow had 3 calves at one time which are now all grown cattle, Tringford.
Three horses, each at least 40 years old, at Ashton Rowant, Sherborn, Seldern.

A woman of 60 years old brought to bed of a son, both now living at Shesford.

A woman of 34 years, with good symmetry of parts, wanting 2 inches of a yard in height, born at Milcomb.

Richard Clifford, late of Bolscot the oldest man I have yet heard of in this county, viz. 114 years old.

Mr. Evans, Rector of Heath, had a stone grow under his tongue that almost deprived him of his speech, which he drew forth with his owne hand.

Richard Hastings of Newton, with Origen, hath made himself an Eunuch, for the kingdom of heaven, and is now living.

They hold their Common at Ensham by drawing a load of wood to the Abbey, with men's hands on Whitsunday.

The families of ye Lord Norris of Ricot, and of one Mr. Wood of Bampton, have a certain premonition before their deaths, the one by the Oake aforesaid, the other by a violent knocking.

The jealous and restless life of one Ovington of Chinner, is notable.

Bodies of men preserved from putrefaction by extreame moisture, Wendlesbury.

THINGS OF ART.

The flat floors of timber at the Theater, — Stone at Queen's College, Oxon.

The roofs of Merton College Treasury, and a Chappel at Norwich, remarkable.

The stair-case at Bletchington, and upper windows at the Theater are notable.

A Kitchin within a Chimney, or rather a Kitchen without a Chimney, at Stanton-Harcourt.

A new way to make a great gate swing as light as a smaller.

A mill, that grinds apples for cider, and wheat to flour, while it sifts at the same time into 4 different finenesses: Oates, which it cutts from ye huske and winnows from the Chaffe, into pure Oat-meal; Lastly, it grinds mustard, All which are performed with one horse, together or severally, as desired, at Lugmore (Tusmore?)

A mill, that grinds corn, cutts stones, and bores Guns, altogether or severally, at Hanwell.

A harpavial with cata-gutt-strings, at Cornwell.

A Nett, that certainly catches all the fishes that swim within such a compass, at Hanwell.

An ingenious Roll, for land that is light and subject to couch-grass, at Bolscot.

A clock that goes by water at Hanwell.

A walk, so ingeniously contrived, that standing in the middle, no eye can perceive but it is perfectly streight, but removing to either end, it appears, on the contrary, so strangely crooked, that the eye cannot reach much above half the way, at Lugmore.

A way of fattening hogs with so much husbandry and so little trouble, that they cannot spoil a bean, each hog never having above a handful, yet never less: the servants never give them meat but once, or ever need they come near them, till they guess them to be fat, at Lugmore.

An Oast, or Mault-Roller of stone, first invented by Valentine Stronge, secure from the danger of fire, and drying quicker, better, and with lesser charge than others, at Teynton and Holwell.

The ingenious Hook, made to lift barrels by the help of a screw within a box, so easy and without the least jogg, that the beere may be drawne presently after stooping, at Stanton-Harcourt, Shipton Underwood.

A rack, for oxen, so well contrived, that they cannot spoil one straw, at Lugmore.

Utensills for brewing made of stone, at Teynton.

An ingenious contrivance to prevent great stacks of hay, Saint-foyne &c. from firing, at Lugmore.

A mill for French barley at Caversham.

Flint-glasses made at Henley.

ANTIQUITIES.

Saxon and Danish Fortifications at Bladon, Tadmerton, Lineham, Idbury, Chastleton, Shipton-under Whichwood, Nixbury.

Roman Barrows, at Fritwell, Stanton Harcourt.

Ancient ways, Akeman Stret going through Fritwell, and the Portway through Souldern.

The Fosse-way, yet to be seen near Bradwell Grove.

Pavimentum Poenicum sive Mosaicum — Asaroton Græcorum — Lithostroton Plinii. — ploughed up at Great-Tew.

Rowl-right Stones.

The great Stones in Stanton Harcourt field.

The vaults and passages under ground at Woodstock and Bloxham.

The font of Saint Edward at Kiddington.

An arrow or dart of an antique forme, plowed up at Steeple-Barton.

A Stone, found in Sir Thomas Spencer's Garden, with China or Runic characters.

An ancient image of brass of Our Saviour, plowed up at Hampton-Gay.

An ancient Vane taken up at Wendlebury.

Ancient Roman and English money from Aston Rowant, Teynton, Horley, Burford, Stratton Audley, Swerford, Chipping Norton.

XVII. INQUISITION CONCERNING ROBERT VESEY'S BEQUEST TO FOUND BAMPTON GRAMMAR-SCHOOL, JAN. 12, 1637.

The original parchment roll is kept in the great iron chest at Bampton church: it is illegible in many places, apparently by reason of the damp.

Oxon. An inquisition, indented, taken at the city of Oxon the 12th day of January in the 13th year of the reign of our sovereign lord Charles by the grace of God king of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the faith, &c.

BEFORE Richard Bayley, D. D. vicechancellor of the University of Oxon, Henry Southam Esq., mayor of the city of Oxford, John Prideaux, D. D., Richard Zouche, doctor of law, chancellor to the bishop of Oxford, and John Whistler, esq., by virtue of his majesty's commission under the great seal of England, to them and others directed to enquire for the due execution of the statute made in the parliament holden at Westminster the 27th day of October, in the 43rd year of our late sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth, entitled an Act to redress the misemployment of lands, goods and stock of money heretofore given to charitable uses, by the oaths of Thomas Speede, Anthony Edwards, William Warland, Richard Willimott, Nicholas Redhead, Edward West, John Collens, William Spencer, Thomas May, Robert Wheeler, Richard Farr, James Yates and Robert Nicholas, good and lawful men of the county aforesaid. Who say upon their oaths that Robert Veysey the elder, late of Chimney, in the county of Oxon, gent., deceased, by his last will and testament, bearing date the first day of July, in the 11th year of the reign of our Sovereign lord king Charles that now is, amongst other things did publish and declare his will to be, and did thereby give and bequeath, to and for the freeschool to be founded and erected in Bampton, the sum of £100 for and towards the building thereof with ashleane worke, and did also give £200 more to be disposed as his executors, Mr. William Hodges, Mr. John Palmer, and three others of the sufficients men in Bampton should think fit concerning the same school with some protrature at the upper end of the same. And the said Robert Veysey, by the same will, did make, nominate and appoint his nephew William Veysey of Bampton in the county of Oxon, clothier, his full and whole executor of that his last will and testa-

ment, only in hope, trust, and confidence for the true payment of all his debts and legacies and to be accountable thereof to his overseers monthly, as by the said last will and testament appeareth. And the said jurors further say that the said Robert Veysey afterwards, that is to say the 11th day of July, in the year of our Lord God 1635, died leaving sufficient assets to pay all his debts and legacies. And the said William Veysey did take upon him the burden of the said executorship and proved his said will in due form of law. And that the said £300, or any part thereof, sithence the death of the said Robert Veysey, hath not been employed or paid by the said William Veysey the executor, as by the said will the same is limited and appointed to be employed and paid.

Oxon. Orders and decrees made at the city of Oxon in the county of Oxon the 12th day of Jan. in the 13th year of the reign of our sovereign lord Charles, by the grace of God king of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the faith, &c. By Rich. Bayley D. D., vicechancellor of the University of Oxon, Henry Southam Esq. mayor of the city of Oxon, John Prideaux, D. D., Richard Zouche, Doctor of Law, Chancellor to the bishop of Oxford, John Whistler esq. by virtue of his majesty's commission under the great seal of England, bearing date the 23rd day of March in the 12th year of the reign of our Sovereign lord Charles to them and others directed for the execution of the statute made in the high court of parliament holden at Westminster the 27th day of October in the 43rd year of the reign of our late sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth, intituled an "Act to redress the misemployment of land, goods and stock of money given to charitable uses and as concerning the £300 given by the late will and testament of Robert Veysey towards the erecting and endowing of a free-school in Bampton the said commissioners do order, adjudge and decree that William Veysey the executor of the said Robert shall forthwith pay into the hands of John Palmer of Bampton aforesaid the said £300 with interest thereof from the time of the decease of the said Robert Veysey after the rate of £5 in the hundred from the time of decease of the said Robert, until the said money shall be paid to be employed toward the erecting and endowing of a free-school in such manner as by the said will is directed.

And they do further order and decree that William Hodges of Bampton aforesaid clerk, William Veysey, John Palmer, Edward Carter, Thomas Willear, and Will. Hancks, or the major part of them, and in case there shall be equality of voices, then that part, on which the said William Veysey shall give his voice or suffrage, shall have the placing and election of the first school-master there, and that the school-master of the said school shall from time to time be elected chosen and visited and upon just cause amoved by the three vicars of the said parish for the time being and the heir of the said Robert Veysey or the major part of them that shall be present after sufficient warning of such visitation, new election or nomination, and in case there shall be difference in opinion in such their visitation, nomination, election or amoval of any schoolmaster, then that opinion or suffrage shall be followed, unto which the major part of them shall give their voices. And in case there shall be equality of voices, then that part or side, unto which the heir of the said Robert Veysey shall give his voice or suffrage, shall be taken and pursued. And do further order and decree that the lands that shall be purchased for the endowment and maintainance of the schoolmaster there shall be purchased in the name of William Veysey the executor, Sir Thomas Whord, knight, William Hodges, Robert Veysey the younger, John Palmer, Henry Medhopp, Rich. Keene, Henry Coxeter, Thomas Willier, William Hancks, William Wise, and John Trinder. And that as often as all the said feoffees shall be dead, except four surviving feoffees, then those feoffees shall convey the said lands so purchased for the said school and other endowments of the said school unto eight or more of the most substantial persons of the said parish to be nominated and elected, in such sort, manner or form as the said schoolmaster is appointed to be elected, so that those that shall be of the name of the said Robert Veysey be chiefly preferred in that nomination.

**XVIII. GRANT FROM TRUSTEES FOR THE SALE OF CHURCH-
LANDS TO MRS. JANE HANCKS, OF A MOIETY OF BAMPTON
DEANERY IN OXFORDSHIRE.**

The original grant is still, I suppose, in the Rolls-Court: the following copy was made from it many years ago.

SEPTUAGESIMA OCTAVA PARS CLAUS. Anno Domini 1650.

THIS INDENTURE made the nine and twentieth day of September, in the yeare of our Lord God, according to the computation of the Church of England, one thousand six hundred and fiftie, BETWEEN Sir John Wollaston Knight, Robert Titchborne, Thomas Noell, Marke Hildesley, Stephen Estwicke, William Hobson, Thomas Arnold, Owen Roe, George Langham, John Stone, John White, William Wyberd, Daniell Taylor, William Rolfe and Rowland Wilson, esquires, being by two severall Acts of this present Parliament, the one intituled "An Act of the Commons of England in Parliament assembled for the abolishing of Deanes, Deanes and Chapters, Cannons, Prebends, and other offices and tytles of or belonging to any Cathedrall or Collegiate-Church or Chappell within England and Wales," and the other intituled "An Act with further instructions to the Trustees, Contractors, Treasurers and Registers for the sale of the lands and possessions of the late Deans, Sub-deans, Deanes and Chapters, &c. and for the better and more speedy execution of the former Acts, Ordinances and Instructions made concerning the same persons trusted for the conveying of such of the lands and possessions of the said late Deanes, Deanes and Chapters, Canons, Prebends, and other persons named in the said Acts, as by the same Acts respectively are vested and settled in the said Trustees and their heires in such sort as in the said Acts respectively is mentioned, of the one part, and Jane Hancks of Bamp. in the co. of Oxon, widow, of the other part— WITNESSETH that the said Sir John Wollaston, [&c. as before] in obedience to the said Acts respectively, and by virtue thereof and in execution of the powers and trusts thereby respectively committed to them, and at the desire and by the warrant of Sir William Roberts, knight, Clement Oxenbridge, Robert Smith, Robert Fenwicke, and Edward Cresset, esquires, who, together with others named in the said Act hereinbefore first mentioned, or any five or more of them, are by the said Acts, or one of them, authorised to treat, contract and agree for the sale of the said lands and possessions, in such sort as in the said Acts respectively is mentioned and in consideration of the summe of eight hundred sixteene pounds six shillings and six pence, of lawfull money of England, the first moiety whereof, being four hundred thirtie-four pounds, thirteene shillings and three pence, the said Thomas Noell and William Hobson, two of the Treasurers in that behalf, appointed by the said first mentioned Act, have by writing under their hands, bearing date the eight and twentieth day of this present moneth of September, nowe produced by the said Jane Hancks and remayning with her, certified to be paid and satisfied in such sort as by the same writing appeares; and the second moiety thereof is to be paid or secured by the said Jane Hancks, according to the Contract certified to the said Trustees by the said Contractors to have bene made for this purchase have graunted, aliened, bargained and sold, and by theise presents do graunt, alien, bargain and sell unto the said Jane Hancks her h. and a. ALL THAT the moiety or halfendeale of a certain Messuage or Tenement, of one close of ground thereunto adjoining, and of one yard-land and an halfe of arable land thereunto belonging, with their and every of their appurtenances, containing by estimation twentie acres more or lesse, now or late in the tenure or occupation of Thomas Collingwood, his Assignee or Assigns, SITUATE, lying, and being within the Mannor of Bampton, in the countie of Oxon, and all that

the other moietie of one Messuage or tenement, of one close of pasture-ground thereunto adjoyning, and of one yard land and an halfe of arable land thereunto belonging, with theire and everie of their appurtenances conteyning by estimation twentie acres, more or lesse, nowe or late in the occupation of Philip Collingwood, his Assignee or Assignes, situate, lying and being within the said manor of Bampton; and ALL THOSE SEVERAL COPPIEHÖLD TENEMENTS, as they are now divided, with theire and everie of their appurtenances, parcell of the said manor of Bampton in the said Co. of Oxon, (that is to say) All that Messuage or tenement, with the appurtenances, and all that garden and one yard land thereunto belonging. with the appurts. lying and being in Bampton aforesaid, conteyning by estimation 20 acres, more or less, now or late in the tenure or occupation of William Green, his Assignee or Assignes, And all that other messuage or tenement with the appurts. and all that garden and one yard land thereunto belonging, with their appurtenances, situate lying and being in Bampton aforesaid and now or late in the tenure or occupation of William Collingwood, his Assignee or Assignes, and all that other messuage or tenement there with the appurtenances and one halfe yard land thereunto belonging with the appurtenances, lying and being in Bampton aforesaid, now or late in the tenure or occupation of John Sidwell, his assignee or assigns, and all that cottage or tenement with the appurtenances, situate lying and being in Bampton aforesaid, now or late in the tenure or occupation of Walter Castle, his assignee or assigns, and all that other cottage or tenement there with the appurtenances, now or late in the tenure or occupation of Robert Jones, his assignee or assigns, and all that other cottage or tenement there with the appurtenances, now or late in the tenure or occupation of John Carter, his assignee or assigns, And all that other cottage or tenement there with the appurtenances, now or late in the tenure or occupation of Robert Wright, his assignee or assigns And all that cottage or tenement there with the appurtenances, now or late in the tenure or occupation of William Edwards, his assignee or assigns. And all that other cottage or tenement there with the appurtenances, now or late in the teature or occupation of Anthony Cromwell, his assignee or assigns, and all that other cottage or tenement there with the appurtenances, now or late in the tenure or occupation of John Clerke, his assignee or assigns. And all that other cottage or tenement there with the appurtenances, now or late in the tenure or occupation of Edward Blagrove, his assignee or assigns and all that other cottage or tenement there with the appurtenances, now or late in the tenure or occupation of Richard Blagrove, his assignee or assigns, and all that messuage or tenement with the appurtenances and all that garden and one yard land thereunto belonging, with the appurtenances, lying and being in Bampton aforesaid, and now or late in the tenure or occupation of John Sydwell, his assignee or assigns, and all that other messuage or tenement there, with the appurtenances, and one quarter of a yard land thereunto belonging, with the appurtenances, now or late in the tenure or occupation of Richard Heysey, his assignee or assigns, and all that other messuage or tenement with the appurtenances and one orchard and curtilage thereunto belonging with the appurtenances conteyning by estimation one acre and an halfe, more or less, and all that close of pasture-ground, with the appurtenances, commonly called the Close behind the house, conteyning by estimation two acres more or less, and all those three yard-lands, with their and every of the appurtenances, conteyning by estimation 50 acres, more or less, belonging to the said messuage or tenement, lying and being in Bampton aforesaid, now or late in the tenure or occupation of the said Jane Hanckes, her assignee or assigns. And all that messuage or tenement with the appurtenances, and also two yard lands and one halfe yard land with the appurtenances thereunto belonging, lying and being in Aston and Coteheld within the said manor of Bampton, and now or late in the tenure or occupation of Thompson Hanckes, his assignee or assigns, and all that other messuage or tenement with the appurtenances and all that yard land and an halfe thereunto belonging, with the appurtenances, lying and being in

Chimney within the said manor of Bampton, now or late in the tenure or occupation of Edmund Martin, his assignee or assigns, and all that other messuage or tenement with the appurtenances, and one quarter of a yard land thereunto belonging, with the appurtenances, lying and being in Cannefield [Clanfield] within the said manor of Bampton, and now or late in the tenure or occupation of Simon Dyer, his assignee or assigns, and all that other messuage or tenement with the appurtenances, and one yard land thereunto belonging with the appurtenances, lying and being in Aston and Cotefield aforesaid, and now or late in the tenure or occupation of John Prior, his assignee or assigns and all that cottage or tenement with the appurtenances situate, lying and being in Bampton aforesaid, and now or late in the t. or o. of Edward Slade, his assignee or assigns, and all those three cottages with their and every of their appurtenances situate and being near the vicarage of Bampton aforesaid, late in the t. or o. of Rous Clapton, his a. or a. and all that cottage or tenement with the appurtenances situate and being in Bampton aforesaid, now or late in the t. or o. of Richard Pettifeir, his assignee or assigns, and all that other cottage or tenement with the appurtenances, situate and being in Bampton aforesaid, now or late in the t. or o. of Robert Carpenter, his assignee or assigns, and all that other cottage or tenement, with the appurtenances, situate and being in Aston and Cotefield aforesaid, or one of them, and one halfe yard land thereunto belonging and appertaining with the appurtenances now or late in the t. or o. of John Clerke, his a. or a. and all that other cottage or tenement there with the appurtenances now or late in the t. or o. of Richard Moore, his a. or a. and all houses, edifices, structures, buildings, barns, stables, outhouses, orchards, gardens, yards, curtilages, court-yards, back-sides, lands arable and not arable, meadows, leasowes, pastures, feedings, commons, and common of pasture, woods, underwoods, timber-trees and other trees and ways, passages, easements, waters, water-courses, profits, commodities, advantages, and appurtenances whatsoever to the several messuages or tenements lands and premises abovementioned, and to every or any of them or any part or parcel of them, or any of them belonging or in any wise appertaining, all which said premises are parcel of the manor of Bampton aforesaid and also the moiety of the said manor of Bampton, and of all and singular messuages, cottages, lands, tenements, meadows, leasowes, pastures, feedings, commons, grounds used for common, wastes and waste grounds thereunto belonging, other than and except the lands tenements and hereditaments hereinafter mentioned to be excepted.

And the said Sir John Wollaston, [&c. as before] in further execution of the said powers and trusts, and by the said warrant, and for the consideration aforesaid, have granted, aliened, bargained, and sold, and by these presents do grant, alien, bargain and sell unto the said Jane Hanckes, her heirs and assigns the moiety of all Courts Baron, services, franchises, customes, customwork, forfeitures, escheats, reliefs, heriots, fines, issues, amerciments, fines upon descent or alienation, perquisites, and profits of the said court, rivers, streams, waters, water-courses, fishing, hawking, hunting, fowling, waifs, estrays, deodands, treasure-trove, goods and chattels of felons and fugitives, felons of themselves, outlawed and condemned persons, clerks convicted, and of persons put in exigents, rights, royalties, jurisdictions, liberties, privileges, immunities, profits, commodities, advantages, rents, reversions, emoluments, possessions and hereditaments whatsoever to the said manor of Bampton, incident, belonging, or in anywise appertaining, and which the late Dean and Chapter of the late Cathedral Church of St. Peter in Exon or any their predecessors in right of the late Deanery of Exon, or any other person or persons claiming by, from, or under them or any of them their or any of their estates at any time within the space of ten years next before the beginning of this present parliament or sithence had held used occupied or enjoyed within the said manor which said premises are mentioned in the particular thereof to have been late parcel of the possessions of the late Dean and

Chapter of the said late Cathedral-church of Saint Peter in Exon in the County of Devon, and to have been together with the residue of the said manor of Bampton, by indenture bearing date the 12th day of June in the 17th year of the reign of the late king Charles demised by the late Dean and Chapter of the said late Cathedral-church of Saint Peter in Exon unto Robert Veysey gentleman, and Jane Hanckes, for the term of one and twenty years from the day of the date thereof, under the yearly rent of £16. 6s. 2d., the proportionable part of which said rent for the premises hereby granted is in the said particular mentioned to be £9. 6s. 2d., as by the said particular, wherein the same premises hereby granted are mentioned to be upon improvement of the yearly value of fourscore and eight pounds ten shillings and eleven pence, over and above the said proportionable part of the said yearly rent reserved appears and the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders of the said moiety or halfendeale of the said manor, messuages or tenements, lands and premises and of every part and parcel thereof, except and always reserved out of this present bargain, sale and conveyance all parsonages appropriate, tithes appropriated, fee-farm rents, issuing out of tithes, oblations, obventions, portions of tithes, parsonages, vicarages, churches, chapels, advowsons, donatives, nominations, rights of patronage and presentation and also except all that Court-leet and view of frankpledge, of and belonging to or usually held within the manor aforesaid and all fines, issues, amerciaments, profits, perquisites, commodities, advantages, emoluments, and appurtenances thereto incident or belonging or in any wise appertaining, and which the late Dean and Chapter of the said late Cathedral-church of St. Peter in Exon, or any their predecessors in right of the late Deanery of Exon or any other person or persons, claiming by from or under them or any of them, their or any of their estates, at any time within the space of ten years next before the beginning of this present parliament or sithence had held used occupied or enjoyed as belonging or appertaining to the said court-leet and view of frankpledge and also except all lands, tenements, and hereditaments now or late parcel of the manor aforesaid, and now or late in the t. or o. of Robert Veysey, esquire, his a. or a. by virtue of a deed of partition made between the said Jane Hanckes and the said Robert Veysey, bearing date the 20th day of May in the two and twentieth year of the reign of the late king Charles, and all such other things, as in and by the said acts or either of them are saved or excepted or appointed to be saved, or excepted, or not to be sold.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said moiety or halfendeale, of the said manor, messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, and all and singular other the premises hereby granted, aliened, bargained or sold, or hereinbefore mentioned to be hereby granted, aliened, bargained or sold, with their and every of their rights, members, and appurtenances, except before excepted, unto ye said Jane Hancks, her heirs and assigns for ever, to ye only use and behoof of ye said Jane Hanckes, her heirs and a. for ever as amply as ye said trustees or any of them by the said Acts or either of them are enabled to convey the same, discharged of all demands, payments and incumbrances, as amply as by the said Acts or either of them it is enacted or provided in that behalf. IN WITNESS whereof the said parties to these indentures interchangeably have set their seals, yeoven the day and year first above-written.

ET MEMORAND. quod 20mo 8vo die Novembris, anno suprascripto præfatus Marcus Hildesley venit coram custode libertatis Angliæ autoritate parlamenti in cancellar. et recogn. inden. prædict. ac omnia et singula in eadem content. et specificat in forma suprascripta.

Irrotulatur XIIo die Decemb. anno prædicto.

XIX. APPOINTMENT OF THE FIRST SCHOOL-MASTER TO THE FREE-SCHOOL OF BAMPTON, OCT. 10, 1653.

From the iron-chest in Bampton parish-church.

To all true Christian people, to whom this present writing shall come, William

Hodges, of Ripple, in the county of Wigorne, Clerk, William Veysey of Taynton in the county of Oxon, clothier, Thomas Willear of Bampton, in the said county of Oxon, mercer, and William Hancks of Bampton aforesaid, mercer, send greeting in our Lord God everlasting.

WHEREAS Robert Veysey, late of Chimney in the parish of Bampton in the county of Oxon, gent. deceased, in and by his last will and testament, bearing date the first day of July, in the 11th year of the reign of the late king Charles, did give and bequeath to and for a free-school to be founded and erected in Bampton the sum of one hundred pounds for and towards the building thereof with Ashleane worke and also did give £ 200 more to be disposed of as his executors Mr. William Hodges, Mr. John Palmer and three others of the sufficient men in Bampton aforesaid should think fit concerning the same school, And the said Robert Veysey by the same will did make nominate and appoint his nephew William Veysey of Burford in the said county of Oxon, clothier, his sole executor of that his last will and testament, as in and by his said last will and testament more at large appeareth, Which said William Veysey did take upon him the burden of the said executorship and proved his said will in due form of law : and whereas afterwards it was ordered and decreed at the city of Oxon, in the said county of Oxon (that is to say) the 12th day of January, in the 13th year of the said late king Charles, by Richard Bayly, D. D., then vicechancellor of the University of Oxford, Henry Southam esq., then mayor of the city of Oxon, John Prideaux, D. D., Richard Zouch, Doctor of law, then chancellor to the then Bishop of Oxon, and John Whistler esq. upon an inquisition then and there taken before them, by the oaths of Thomas Speed, Anthony Edwards and eleven others good and lawful men of the said county of Oxon : by virtue of a commission under the great seal of England, to them and others directed, that William Hodges, then of Bampton aforesaid, clerk, William Veysey, John Palmer, Edward Carter, Thomas Willier and William Hancks, or the major part of them and in case there should be equality of voices, then that part, on which the said William Veysey should give his voice or suffrage, should have the placing and election of the first school-master there : as in and by the said decree, amongst other things, more at large appeareth : sithence which, the said John Palmer and Edward Carter are deceased : now know ye that the said William Hodges, William Veysey, Thomas Willier, and William Hancks, the surviving electors of the first school-master of the said free-school, have elected placed and appointed, and hereby do elect, place and appoint William Jackson of Charlbury in the said county of Oxon, M. A. first schoolmaster of and in the said school, according to and in pursuance of the said decree, he the said school-master observing such rules and statutes as are made by the Jeoffees of the said school on his part to be done.

In witness whereof we have hereunto put our hands and seals the 10th day of October in the year of our Lord 1653.—Wm. Hodges, Rob. Veysey, per Wm. Veysey, executor, as above is written, Thomas Willear, Wm. Hanckes.

XX. INQUISITIONS TAKEN AT BAMPTON, A. D. 1680.

From the chest in Bampton church.

OXON SCILICET INQUISITIONS indented taken at Bampton, on Friday the 30th day of April, in the two and thirtieth year of the reign of our Sovereign Ld. Charles the II, by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., Annoque Domini 1680. And from then adjourned to the eight and twentieth day of May then next following, before Henry Alworth Dr. in Law, Robert Perrot, Thomas Hord, John Gower, Johu Gunne Esq. and Richard Dew Gentlemen.

By virtue of the King's majesty's commission issuing out of His majesty's high and honorable court of Chancery bearing date at Westminster the seventeenth day of February in the two and thirtieth year of his now majesty's Reign to them and others directed for the inquiring of the misemployment of Lands,

Tenements and Hereditaments, goods, Chattels, and stocks of money heretofore given to charitable uses according to the statutes made in the three and thirtieth year of the Reign of the late Queen Elizabeth in that case made and provided by the oaths of Daniel Warwick of Kelmscot, John Williams, John Williams Jun., Edward Ricketts, William Faulkner, Phillip Turner, William Turner, Nicholas Constable, William Bryan, Peter ate, John Tremaine, Robert Stevens, Alexander May, William Castle, John Clarke and John Taylor, good and lawful men of the said County who being returned impannelled elected and sworn according to the said statute and commission do say upon their oaths as followeth ;

BAMPTON.—First they present and say upon their oaths that John Palmer late of Weald in the parish of Bampton in the county of Oxon Gent., deceased did by his last will and testament bearing date the three and twentieth day of October in the year of our Lord 1650, give to the use of the poor, within the townships of Bampton and Weald only, the sum of £100 to be disposed of among the said poor by Bartholomew Coxeter Gent., John Trinder, Robert Right, and William Collingwood of Bampton aforesaid, Yeomen, or the survivors or survivor of them. And they do further present and say that the said John Palmer some short time after the making of his said will died, upon whose death the said £100 was paid and came to the hands of the said Bartholomew Coxeter who detained the same about the space of five years and paid no part of the said money or the interest thereof to or for the use of the poor of Bampton and Weald according to the said last will of the said John Palmer, upon which by virtue of a commission of charitable uses directed to several gentlemen commissioners for the said county the said commissioners ordered the said Bartholomew Coxeter to pay the £100 and the interest thereof then due and in arrears unto the said John Trinder, which was accordingly paid. And they do further present and say upon their oaths that the said sum of £100 and also the sum of £48 being the interest money of the said £100, is now in the hands and possession of the said John Trinder and they do further say that the said Bartholomew Coxeter, Robert Right, William Collingwood are since the making of the said will dead and that the said John Trinder is the only surviving Trustee.

ITEM they do further present and say upon their oaths that Richard Blagrove late of Bampton in the said county of Oxon Yeoman deceased did after he had made his last will and testament in writing declare upon his death-bed his intention to have given to the use of the poor of Bampton aforesaid and Weald, the sum of £10 in the presence of Joan his wife and executrix of his said will, and they do further present that the said Joan his executrix voluntarily declared the same and desired that the said £10 might be by her paid into the hands of the Church-wardens and overseers of the poor of Bampton and Weald to be by them disposed of and placed out at interest for the use of the poor of Bampton and Weald for ever but withal did declare her intention that it should be to such uses in bread or otherwise for the said poor and to such of them during her life as she should nominate direct or appoint.

ITEM they do further present and say upon their oaths that Robert Dale late of Weald in the parish of Bampton in the county of Oxon. gent., deceased did, by his last will and testament under his hand and seal, bearing date the 10th day of August in the year of our Lord 1658, give and bequeath unto the poor of Aston and Coate, in the said county of Oxon five pounds to remain in his executrix's hands and she to pay six shillings for the use of it every year so long as she should live and afterwards to be put into the hands of some honest trustees to remain for ever paying to the poor of Aston and Coate what benefit the money would bring yearly for the use of it, and they do further present that the executrix is since dead, and that upon her death the said sum of five pounds came to the hands and custody of Thomas Dale her executor who hath the said five pounds in his hands.

ITEM they do further present and say, upon their oaths, that Edward Cotten,

late of Silverton clerk deceased, did by his last will and testament, bearing date the 16th day of December, anno Domini 1674 and afterwards proved in due form of law, the 27th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1676, give unto the poor house lodgers of Bampton and Weald the sum of fifty pounds, his will being that it should be put out on good security by ye overseers and churchwardens of ye said parish and the interest thereof paid to such parishioners as are not chargeable to the parish, and who duly frequent their church, and receive the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's supper and to such persons of honest religious lives as may encourage industry and piety, provided always that no one have less than half a crown and no one more than ten shillings, the money to be disposed of by and with the consent of the three vicars and to such persons as they shall appoint, reposing such confidence in them that they will not by partiality misplace his charity or dispose of what he gave, to ease ye parish thereby of that relief which is due from them to the poor, and they do further present and say upon their oaths that John Cotten of Boscastle in the county of Cornwall, esquire, did the said 21st day of May in ye year of our Lord 1676, prove the said will and testament and took upon him ye burden thereof and possessed himself of the goods and chattels of she said Edward Cotton deceased to the value of £1149. 8s. and that ever since the probate of the said will the said John Cotten hath detained the said sum of £50, with the interest thereof in his hands.

ITEM they do further present and say, upon their oaths, that Dr. William Osborne deceased by his will did give a hundred pounds to ye use of ye poor of Bampton aforesaid to be bestowed in binding out of apprentices as it should seem good to any two of the vicars to be together with Mr. John Palmer there and they do further find that the said sum of £100 is now in the hands and custody of Stephen Phillips Dr. of Divinity one of the vicars of Bampton, together with twenty pounds there made and raised out of the interest thereof.

Also the said day of adjournment, videlicet the 28th day of May, anno Domini 1680, and from thence adjourned to the 7th day of June then next following, before us, H. Alworth, Dr. in law, Th. Hord, Rob. Perrott, and J. Gunn, esqs., and Richard Dewe, gent., commissioners by virtue of the statute and commission before mentioned; The Jurors aforesaid, upon their oaths, present and say that the sum of £10, with the interest thereof, now in the hands of John Collingwood and Edith Sheppard, as executors to William Collingwood mentioned in their bonds bearing date the last day of October, anno Domini 1656, and that the sum of £10 with the interest thereof, now in the hands of Henry Cooke and Simon Collingwood mentioned in their bond, bearing date the 18th day of April, Anno Domini 1674, and that the sum of £20, with ye interest thereof, now in the hands of Henry Allen and John Bennett ye younger mentioned in their bonds, bearing date the 11th day of April, anno Domini 1675 and that the sum of £10, with ye interest thereof, now in the hands of Robert Sidwell and John Sidwell, executors of Ellen Sidwell his mother deceased mentioned in their bond bearing date the 22nd day of October, in the year of our Lord 1673 and that the sum of £70, with the interest thereof, now in the hands of Powdrell Hurst and John Gower, esquires, mentioned in their bond bearing date the first day of May, anno Domini 1670 and that the sum of £50, with the interest thereof, now in the hands of William Nabbs, and John Nabbs, mentioned in their bond, bearing date the 2nd day of May, anno Domini 1677, and that the sum of £50, now in the hands of John Gower esq. and George Gower, gent., with the interest thereof, mentioned in their bond, bearing date the 12th day of May anno Domini 1677, and that the sum of £20 with the interest thereof, now in the hands of William Greene, all which said several sums so mentioned and expressed as aforesaid, do belong to the use of the school of Bampton by the devise of Robert Veysey, late of Chimney, gent., deceased and also by the devise of John Palmer, late of Weald, gent., deceased, and by the devise of H. Coxeter, late of Weald, gent., deceased.

ITEM They do farther present and say, upon the oath of Daniel Warwick, and

the information of Richard Coxeter gent., that there is fourteen foot of ground in length on the west end of the free school of Bampton lying towards a cottage of Mr. Richard Dewe's that belongs to the said free school, and lying between a stone wall of Dr. Phillips to ye north and a mud wall to ye south, of ye same length.

APRIL the 30th, Anno Domini 1680 it is ordered, adjudged and decreed by the commissioners appointed as aforesaid, that the £5 mentioned in the inquisition to be given by Robert Dale by his will above-recited be paid by Thomas Dale ye executor of ye executrix unto John Moulden, John Williams ye elder, John Williams the younger, of Coate in this county yeoman, and Edward Rickotts of Aston yeomen, whom we appoint trustees for ye said poor, and to be by them ye trustees disposed of and placed out for the uses expresed in the said..... and that the receipt of the said trustees for the said £5 be a sufficient discharge to the said Thomas Dale for ever.

APRIL the 30th Anno Domini 1680. We the commissioners aforesaid do farther order, adjudge and decree that the £10 mentioned to be given in the inquisition by Richard Blagrove to the use of the poor of Bampton and Weald, be by Jone his wife and executrix paid into the hands of the Churchwardens and overseers of the poor of Bampton and Weald aforesaid to be by them disposed of and placed out at interest for the use of the poor of Bampton and Weald aforesaid for ever but to such uses in bread or otherwise for the said poor and to such of them during the life of the said Jone as she shall direct and appoint.

At the said day of adjournment, that is to say the 28th day of May, Anno Domini 1680, we, the commissioners aforesaid, do farther order, adjudge, and decree that for the better settling and continuing of the several sums beforementioned in the inquisition of £10 with the interest thereof to be in the hands of John Collingwood and Edith Sheppard as excutors of William Collingwood, and the sum of £10 with the interest thereof, to be in the hands of Henry Cooke and Simon Collingwood and the sum of £20 with the interest thereof to be in the hands of Henry Allen and John Bennet the younger; and the sum of £10, and the interest thereof, to be in the hands of Robert Sidwell and John Sidwell execut. of Ellen Sidwell his mother deceased and the sum of £70, with the interest thereof to be in the Hands of Powdrell Hurst and John Gower esquire, and the sum of £50, with the interest thereof, to be in the hands of William Nabbs and John Nabbs and the sum of £20, with the interest thereof, to be in the hands of William Greene, be by the several persons before-mentioned forthwith paid into the hands of Stephen Phillips Doctor in Divinity, Arthur Rury Doctor in Divinity, and Thomas Snell Clerk, the present vicars of the parish-church of Bampton and their successors, Thomas Hord esquire, John Gower esquire, Robert Mayott of Fawlor gent., Richard Dew the elder of Bampton, gent., Robert Veisey of Tanton gent., Thomas Tremayne the younger gent., Richard Lissett, John Nabbs and William Young, whom we nominate and appoint trustees for the receiving thereof and the said trustees or the major part of them to dispose and lay out the same in lands and tenements of fee-simple, and that the said trustees or the major part of them do contract and agree with the party or parties of whom the said lands and tenements shall or may be bought and purchased to convey by the advice of Counsel learned in the Law such lands and tenements so to be purchased unto the said trustees and their heirs upon trust and confidence that the said trustees shall pay and dispose the clear yearly value of the said lands and tenements so to be purchased to the schoolmaster belonging to the said parish of Bampton for the time being and his successors, and with a covenant or proviso in the said deed of purchase..... shall think fit that so soon as eight of the beforementioned trustees are or shall be dead, ye surviving trustees shall enfeof and convey to 12 other trustees and their heirs, the vicars of Bampton for the time being to be three of the said trustees upon and under the same trust, covenants, and provisoes contained in the said conveyance, and in like manner after the death of eight

trustees the survivors shall enfeof and convey to twelve others, and their heirs, the vicars of Bampton for the time being to be three of the trustees, upon and under like trust, covenants and provisoes before-mentioned, and so after the death of eight of the trustees the survivors to enfeof and convey to twelve others the vicars of Bampton for the time being to be three of the said trustees, to continue the said trust and so the said trust in like manner to be continued for ever.

At the day of adjournment that is to say the 28th day of May, anno Domini 1680, we the commissioners aforesaid do farther order, adjudge and decree that the said store of ground mentioned in the inquisition to belong to the free school of Bampton be observed and livered of the bodies of the said Mr. Richard Dew, in the inquisition mentioned as the Richard Dew, and of the parishioners of the parish of Bampton.

AT the day of adjournment, that is to say the 28th day of May anno Domini 1680 we the commissioners aforesaid do farther order, adjudge and decree by and with the consent of John Trinder in the inquisition mentioned that for the better settling and continuing of ye sum of £120 mentioned in ye inquisition to be in ye hands of ye said John Trinder that he ye said J. Trinder do within six days next ensuing, after notice of the said decree, give security by bond for the said sum of £120 now in his hands unto Richard Lissett, John Nabbs, William Young, Thomas Tremaine, Thomas Burdock, John Carter the elder, Thomas Hall, all of Bampton aforesaid, Richard Wright, William Sadler of Weald yeomen, whom we nominate and appoint trustees for the receiving thereof and the said trustees or the major part of them to dispose and lay out the same in lands and tenements of fee-simple, and that the said trustees or the major part of them do contract and agree with the party or parties, of whom the said lands or tenements shall or may be bought and purchased, to convey, by the advice of counsel learned in the law, such lands and tenements so to be purchased, unto the said trustees and their heirs, upon trust and confidence that the said trustees shall pay and dispose the clear yearly value of the said lands and tenements so to be purchased to the poor of Bampton and Weald, and not one person or family to have above five shillings at a time and with a covenant or proviso in the said deeds of purchase, as counsel shall think fit, that so soon and so often as six of the before-mentioned trustees are or shall be dead, the surviving trustees shall enfeof and convey to nine other trustees and their heirs, upon and under the like trusts covenants and provisoes before-mentioned. And after the death of six trustees the survivors to enfeof and convey to nine others to continue the said trust..... to be in like manner transferred from time to time for ever. And that out at interest by the said trustees until such purchase be had..... disposed of to the poor as aforesaid And that the acquittance or..... said trustees or the major part of them shall be a good discharge to the said purposes.

IN WITNESS whereof as well the said commissioners, as the said trustees have set their hands and seals the 7th day of June, anno Domini 1681.

Tremayne March the 18th, 1681. Recd., then and before, seventeen pounds, nineteen shillings and eleven pence in full of the charges and expenses for carrying on and managing of this business in full, by me, THO. TREMAYNE.

XXI. HUDSON'S PAMPHLET ON THE CHARITIES OF BAMPTON AND WEALD, (reprinted from the edition of 1814.)

[TITLE PAGE.] A brief statement of the several charitable gifts and donations for the benefit of the poor of Bampton and Weald, With particular directions how the rents and profits are to be applied According to the several Deeds, Wills, and Decrees.

To which is added 'An account of the Lands appropriated' for the use of Repairing the Church 'Interspersed with remarks and observations.'

God is a spirit just and wise, He sees with piercing sight,

How dare we then the poor despise, And keep from them their right.

Rob not the poor, because of their poverty, but pity and have mercy on them. SOL.

BAMPTON, OXON; Printed by W. Holloway for the late Mr. Hudson. 1801.
And reprinted at request, Dec. 30th, 1814. (Price Sixpence.)

[Page 2.] TO THE READER.

As most Authors say something in defence of the works they publish, it may perhaps be expected that I should give my reasons for compiling the following memorandums.

Suffice it then to say, that my principal design was, to rescue from oblivion, the rights of the poor to the several charitable Donations; in the prosecution of which subject I have been actuated by the purest motives, That of Benevolence to my fellow creatures in the lower orders of society. For having a long time observed with concern, the numberless abuses and mis-management that too frequently attend the distribution of charitable Donations in general, but more particularly those belonging to our own poor I was induced to collect and publish, from the best and most authentic information I possibly could procure, an account of all the existing charities, with the quantity and rents of the several Estates etc. How far I have succeeded in the attempt I shall leave to better judges than myself to determine.

I hope however, that the work, imperfect as it is, will meet the approbation of the candid, and be a means of stimulating the new Trustees, as well as the old Churchwardens, to a faithful discharge of their duty in this important affair. By settling their accounts annually, and leaving the Books open for public Inspection, then, and not till then, may we expect to hear of no more complaining in our Streets, and Alehouses, of the abuse and mis-application of the poor's money as it is call'd, but on the contrary, all would be peace harmony and concord. That this in future may be the case, is the Sincere wish of your Humble Servant

R. HUDSON. Bampton, May 15th, 1801.

[Page 3.] CHARITIES, &c.

THOMPSON'S GIFT.

Heaven hath my soul, in purest joy and bliss,
Earth hath my earth where body toom'd is,
Poor have my store, for ever to their use;
Friends have my name: to keep without abuse,
Heaven, Earth, Poor, Friends of me have all their part,
And this in life was chiefest joy of heart.

GEORGE THOMPSON Esq. who died in the year 1603,—by his will gave to the poor of 'Bampton, Weald, and Lew, Six Pounds a year for ever: charg'd upon a house and lands at Brize-Norton,—in the occupation of 'Francis Hall, and Charles Gillet;' which sum is directed to be distributed in the 'South Porch,' by the Church Wardens and Overseers, on Whitsunday, and St. Thomas the Apostle, by equal portions;—'But no part of this Charity has been distributed on Whitsunday, in the memory of the writer of this work.'

WILMOT'S GIFT.

LEONAD WILMOT of Clanfield Gent., who died in the year 1608, gave to the poor of Bampton and Weald, forty shillings a year for ever charged upon an estate at Clanfield, called [P. 4] 'Chest-Lion Farm,'—now in the occupation of Mr. Pope; which sum is directed by his will to be distributed by the Churchwardens to the most industrious poor, on Good Friday in every year. But shameful to relate, not a shilling of it has been given to the poor till within these five or six years past, although it has been regularly received by the Churchwardens. This I assert as a real fact, as I was the only person at a vestry who remonstrated against the mis-application of this charity, as well as some of the other gifts.*

APPLETON ESTATE.

JOHN, 'alias' JULIAN WALTER of Appleton in the county of Berks, Gent., who died in the year 1636, by his Will gave to the poor of Bampton & Weald, an estate of eighteen pounds per annum consisting of a house, barn, and homestead, about twenty four acres of arable land, one acre and a half of pasture, and four cow commons, now in the occupation of Willi-[P. 5]am Clanfield; the rents of which are directed to be laid out in wheaten bread, & distributed every Sunday after divine service to the most necessitous poor; excepting Eight shillings, which

* Tradition says that this gentleman in the former part of his life was a menial servant, in which capacity he lived about 20 years in several different parishes in the Counties of Oxford and Berks, to the poor of which, he bequeathed an annual donation of as many pounds as he continued to live years in each place — to Bampton he gave two pounds, — to Clanfield three pounds, — to Bu Ford and Witney four pounds each.

sum (a great one in the days of the donor) is to provide a dinner for the Church-wardens and Overseers on Holy-Thursday. † Present rent, 50 pounds per annum.

LOWER MOOR CLOSE, AND LAKE-RIDDY CLOSE.

Containing in the whole about twelve acres the rents of which are, [according to a table published by the late Mr. Frederick,] to be divided into thirty three parts; eight parts of which are to be paid to the Church-wardens and Overseers, and by them distributed to the poor of Bampton and Weald, and the remaining twenty five parts to be paid to the Trustees, and by them given to [P. 6] the poor; No person or family to have above five shillings at any one time. These Closes it seems were purchased by donations [the most considerable of which was that given by Mrs. Hanks, otherwise Loder,] for the use of the poor, in or about the year 1687. Present rent 27 pounds per annum.

UPPER MOOR CLOSE, & BROOKFAST FURLONG CLOSE.

The former called four acres, the latter six acres, the rents of which are directed to be applied as follows 'viz.' one fourth part to be paid to the Church-wardens to be by them laid out in two-penny loaves and given to the poor every Sunday after divine service; (has this been properly attended to?) one other fourth part to be paid to be Vicars for the purpose of apprenticing poor Boys, and an eighth part to be paid likewise to the Vicars, and distributed at their discretion, to such persons as frequent the Church and sacrament, and are not chargeable to the parish; † [P. 7] and the residue thereof to be paid to the Church-wardens, for the purpose of buying bread to be distributed to the most industrious poor, Present rent of the Moor Close, is 21 pounds per annum, and Brookfast furlong close 27 pounds.

SHILTON ESTATE, BERKS.

This Estate consists of a Messuage or Tenement and Barn, a small Close of pasture well timbered, and upwards of twenty-five acres of inclosed arable land, with a quantity of meadow ground adjoining to the River Isis, now in the occupation of Thomas Bunce, the rents of which are directed to be appropriated for the apprenticing poor Children to some good trades in London or the suburbs thereof ['and not else where'] as the Trustees or the major part of them shall think fit, and as far as the rents and profits will extend. This Estate it seems was purchased by subscription, in or about the year 1706, and the Trustees first appointed were the Vicars of Bampton for the time being, Mrs. Mary Crofts and her heirs, and Mr. Richard Coxeter and his heirs. Present rent 24 pounds per annum.

[P. 8] WIDOWS ESTATE.

Mr. EDWARD CHURCH who died in the year 1771, gave an Estate which is situated in Weald, and known by the name of Sones Lands, of the value of fourteen pounds per annum. In trust, to apply the rents and profits thereof to six poor widows of Weald, to be nominated yearly at Easter by four of the most substantial inhabitants of Bampton and Weald; which said charity for several years after the death of the Donor was applied as his will directed. But he having neglected to comply with the Statute of the 9th G. 2. chap: 36, commonly called the Statute of Mortmain, § his heir at Law, claimed the Estate as his Right and property; and the parish of Bampton judging it useless to litigate the matter left

† A very singular circumstance respecting this Gentleman is handed down to us, and is as follows. Having but few or no relations that he esteem'd or respected, he resolved to bequeath his property to charitable uses; but not having a regard for one Parish in preference to another, he seemed to be at a loss on whom to bestow it. Standing however one day on an eminence near the said village which commands a most extensive prospect, he beheld four different Churches; namely, Bampton, Ensham, Witney, and Standlake, to the poor of which places he gave considerable Estates.

‡ I am sorry to observe that there are very few persons of this Character now to be found. To those however that may happen to come under this description, all due encouragement, in my humble opinion, ought to be given to them.

§ This Statute enacts "That no Land or Tenements shall be given or charged with any charitable use whatsoever unless by deed indented, and executed in the presence of two witnesses, twelve calendar months before the death of the Donor, and enrolled in Chancery six months after its execution."

Mr. Church's heir in the uninterrupted enjoyment [if it may be so called,] of what the letter of the law furnish'd him with.

[P. 9] Having thus taken a view of the several Charity Estates, and given a particular account how the rents and profits of the same are to be applied,

We shall next state the LEGACIES Which have been given for the Poor, and the first that comes under consideration is the Bequest of

Mrs. MARY DEWE; who by her will gave to the Vicars of Bampton, her Sister Mrs. Jane Dewe, Thomas Trollope Brown, and Gasc: Frederick Esquires, the sum of two hundred pounds In trust, to be applied by them, their Executors or Administrators, in employing the poor in some manufactory, under such rules and regulations as they should think fit, or should hereafter be established by parliament. This Gentlewoman died in the year 1763 which is 38 years ago, and notwithstanding the great distance of time, but little has yet been done with this sum, either for the benefit or employment of the poor. Strange! surprising strange! that no one Gentleman in Bampton will exert himself on this occasion. The Rev. Mr. Hawkins in whose hands the principal sum remains is [if I am informed a- [P. 10] right] willing to give it up whenever it can be done with propriety and safety.

Mrs. SNELL's LEGACY.

This Lady was relict of the Rev. Thomas Snell, formerly one of the Vicars of Bampton, who by her will gave to Edward Whitaker, William Roberts, and the Rev. Francis Smith, the sum of two hundred pounds, In trust, that they place it out upon good security, and annually distribute the interest thereof to the poor of Bampton. —She died in the year 1788.

Mr. LEVERETT's LEGACY.

This GENTLEMAN was formerly an eminent Surgeon at Witney; who by his will gave to John Wright and Samuel Druce, the sum of fifty pounds, due to him on the security of the Tolls on the Turnpike road between Bampton and Witney; In trust, that they permit his wife to receive the interest thereof during her life, and after her decease to pay the same to the Church-wardens and Overseers of the poor of Bampton; to be by them laid out in bread and distributed at their discretion to the poor, monthly or weekly for [P. 11] ever. ¶ Not a shilling of the interest of this sum has been received since the death of Mrs. Leverett, which happened in February, 1793.

Mrs. SUSANNA FREDERICK's LEGACY.

This LADY who died in May 1789, gave by her will to the most distressed labouring poor, the interest of two hundred pounds, due to her upon Bond from Mrs. Leybourn late of Westwell in this County, dated in or about June 1784, which sum, if I am rightly informed, is directed to be laid out in linen and shoes, and distributed as her Executor shall think fit. But as Mrs. Leybourn before her death became insolvent, the Charity intended becomes void of course. Mrs. Frederick has also by her will bequeathed the sum of one Guinea yearly, for a sermon to be preached on Good Friday for ever. The subject to be on the merits, death and passion of our blessed redeemer. 'And thus much for Legacies.'

We proceed next to speak of the several SCHOOLS, and their endowments, and first of the FREE SCHOOL which was founded by ROBERT VEYSEY ESQUIRE, heretofore of CHIMNEY in [P. 12] this County § and endowed by him and others in or about the year..... for the instruction and education of all Boys that are fit to be taught Latin in the parish of Bampton, and its several Hamlets, namely—Weald, Lew, Haddon, Aston, Coat, Chinnery, Yelford, Shifford, and Brighthampton. — But whether the master is by the foundation Rules and Orders of the said School, obliged to teach all such Boys that shall be sent to him free of expence, or whether he has not a right to demand something for their education is what I am at a loss to determine with precision.— I shall therefore only observe farther,

§ He died Feb. 15th, 1699, and was interred at Shifford.

that the late REVEREND Mr. MIDDLETON, who was Master of this School upwards of FIFTY years, demanded HALF A CROWN for entrance and one Shilling per quarter for each Boy placed on the Foundation, and the Rev. Mr. Smith, who succeeded him had FIVE Shillings entrance and FIVE Shillings per quarter, so that there seems to be nothing fix'd or certain respecting this matter, nor is the master's salary more permanent or settled than the terms seem to be for teaching. This depends intirely on the rent of the [P. 13] three Closes, which are now let at the enormous sum of fifty pounds ten shillings per annum, being more than double the former rents.

But we pass on to observe that to this School is annexed an English one, for the education of ten Boys in Reading, Writing and Arithmetic, which was endowed by Mrs. Mary Frederick, and her Sisters in the year 1783; the Salary of which [if I am rightly inform'd] is Sixteen pounds per annum, being the interest, arising from four hundred pounds stock in the four per cent Consols. And the late Mrs. Susanna Frederick has, by her will, bequeathed the interest of two hundred pounds, new South Sea Annuities for the support of the Sunday School at Bampton for ever. There is also another Charity School in this Town, for the instruction of six Boys and six Girls, in the first rudiments of Learning, said to be endowed by Mrs. Mary Crofts; * who was Aunt to the late Frederick's family. The salary is about five pounds per annum; but in what year or how long it is since this little School was first established, I have not as yet been able to learn.

Thus have I given from the most authentic information, I possibly could collect, a particular account of all the existing Charities, that have been given for the use and benefit of the poor. We shall next proceed, agreeably to our plan, briefly to describe the several Estates given for the repairs of the Church; and the first that we shall mention is that occupied by Leonard Carter, which consists of a Close adjoining to Clanfield Lane, containing four acres, six cow commons in Weald meadow, and one acre of arable land, lying in a place called moor furlong, Present rent nine pounds per annum.

Secondly, Three acres of arable Land occupied by William Townsend, two of which lie in Wright's field, in the furlong shooting towards Bam-Ley, the other acre or rather two lands, are in moor furlong, Present rent two Guineas a year.

Thirdly, Two acres or more properly four Lands in Bampton field, one lying in each field, now occupied by John Probits, at the yearly rent of one pound nine shillings. Fourthly, A Close of pasture at Lew, situate [P. 15] near the premises of the late John Hinton, containing by estimation three acres, now in the occupation of John Collingwood, at the yearly rent of five Pounds. †

I might here offer some further remark on the abuse of charitable Donations in general, but having far exceeded the bounds of my intended plan, I shall conclude by just observing, that [P. 16] there are or were four other houses belonging to the parish said to be situate in a part of the Town called Rosemary Lane; but I cannot say which are the houses, or whether they are now standing or fallen down.

A RECAPITULATION OF THE SEVERAL RENTS, GIFTS, &c. MENTIONED IN THE FOREGOING WORK.

Appleton Estate, per annum	50	0	0
Lower moor Close, and Lake-Riddy Close	27	0	0
Upper moor Close	21	0	0
Brookfast furlong Close	27	0	0
Shilton Estate	24	0	0

* She died in October, 1719.

† On the north west end of this Close, are standing two houses with large gardens adjoining, the

Thompson's Gift	6	0	0
Wilmot's Gift	2	0	0
Mrs. Dewe's Legacy at 5 per C.	10	0	0
Mrs. Snell's at Ditto	10	0	3
Mr. Leverett's, at 4½ per cent	2	5	4
<hr/>			
Total	£179	5	0

A large Sum, which if properly applied might be the means of doing much good. But let not the poor make these Charities a pretence to Idleness, but them learn to be frugal, honest, and industrious; then, with the blessing of God and the assistance of these Charities, they might support themselves, except very dear times, without relief from the Parish. *FINIS*

XXII. ORDERS AND STATUTES FOR THE FREE SCHOOL AT BAMPTON, IN THE COUNTY OF OXON, AS AGREED ON BY THE VISITORS, JAN. 14, 1731-2.

These statutes are copied from a printed paper, and are here given as a curiosity, for there is no proof that they possess any authority.

1. That the School-master be orthodox for religion, and of a godly conversation.
2. That he be well qualified to teach the Latin and Greek tongues.
3. That there be Morning and Evening Prayers in a Godly Precomposed form duly observed.
4. That on Wednesdays and Fridays and all Saint's Days the School-master bring or cause to be brought all his scholars to Prayers in the Parish Church, and see that they be taught their catechisms according to the Form of the church in England, with some proper explanation of the same.
5. That the Hours of school be from 6 o'clock to 11 in the morning, and from 1 to 5 in the afternoon all the summer time, Viz. — From Lady-day Michaelmas, and in winter from 8 o'clock to eleven, in the Morning, and from 1 till 4 in the afternoon.
6. That all boys fit to be taught Latin of the parish of Bampton, viz. Bampton, Weald, Lew, Haddon, Aston, Coate, Chimney, Shifford, Bright-hampton, and Yelford, be admitted in the said school paying each of 'em to the Master 2 shillings and sixpence for entrance, and afterwards quarterly, 1 shilling.
7. If the School-master shall think fit to teach English, such scholars, as taught shall pay 5 shillings entrance, and 5 shillings quarterly; and shall be obliged to pay for a whole quarter, if they come to school any part thereof.
8. That the schoolmaster constantly reside in the town of Bampton, and in case he shall accept of any preferment inconsistent with such residence, the

one occupied by James Saunders, the other by William Hoar the former of which the late Farmer Haul lived in many years without paying any rent, or acknowledgement for the same, and when he removed to Bampton, he left his Son Thomas in the quiet possession thereof, who resided in it several years and afterwards sold it to James Saunders for the sum of twelve Guineas. The other house has with these few years past been bought and sold three or four times, for Seventeen or Eighteen pounds each time. There was also another house standing a few years ago on this very spot; but it having fallen greatly to decay, — was taken down, and the occupier whose name was Brooks, sold most of the materials to a late opulent Farmer at Lew. These notwithstanding they have been claimed by the present and former occupiers, as their own, are undoubtedly parish houses; for I am very well informed, that used to be repaired by part of the Timber that grew on the said Close: and according to Mr. Fredrick's Table, a lease of these Houses and the Land belonging to the Church, was made in the year 16 by the then Feoffees. To which may be added five cow commons in Lew heath, and a Land in Lew field, said to be part and parcel of this Estate, which Commons & Land have been in possession of the Hanks's Family, more than half a Century.

his place shall be ipso facto void, as if he was naturally dead, and the Visitors shall proceed to a new Election.

1819 Rent of the school-closes, say — £40 10 s. per annum.

School-house, Cottage, &c. 12 0

XXIII. INSCRIPTIONS FROM BAMPTON CHURCH AND CHURCH-YARD.

AINSLEY, Eliza William, daughter of William and Eliza Ainsley of Bengal ; died June 29, 1806, aged 2 days.

AMPHLETT, Rev. Dr. Joseph, many years vicar of Bampton. Mary his wife dr. of John Amson of Lees in the co. of Chester, esq. This monument was erected by their niece Eliza Buckworth.

ANDREWS, Mary and Elizabeth, drs. of Charles and Elizabeth A. Mary d. Oct. 6, 1769, in infancy, Elizabeth d. Dec. 1, 1791, aged 17.

———— Joseph, Esq. and Ann his w. He d. Dec. 30, 1806 : she d. Jan. 12, 1802.

———— Joseph, jun. Esq. d. Ap. 22, 1828.

———— John, s. of Wm. and Elizabeth, d. Feb. 24, 1819, aged 1 y. and 9 m.

———— Wm, s. of Wm. and Elizabeth, d. Oct. 18, 1841, aged 36.

———— Charles, d. Jan. 3, 1803, aged 83. ELIZABETH w. of Charles, d. April 18, 1805, aged 39. ROBERT, son of Ch. and Elizabeth, d. Feb. 11, 1841, aged 64. RUTH his wife, died April 17, 1846, aged 61. MARY-ANN their dr. died Dec. 23, 1845, aged 19.

ANDREWS Joseph, d. Aug. 2, 1842, aged 31.

ANGELL, Jane, w. of John, d. Oct. 3, 1818, aged 41. also two of their children, William d. Oct. 19, 1818, aged 6. Sarah d. Oct. 21, 1818, aged 4.

———— Elizabeth w. of John, died Nov. 1, 1836, aged 57.

ARNATT, Jonathan, of Lew, died Jan. 21, 1799, aged 61. ELIZABETH A., wife of Jon. A. died April 18, 1779, aged 38. ELIZABETH second wife of Jon. A., d. Nov. 22, 1833, aged 90. also 3 infant children of the above. also Joseph A., of Lew, d. April 22, 1834, aged 47. JONATHAN A., of Lew, died Dec. 20, 1844, aged 63.

BAKER, William, d. April 26, 1836, aged 89.

———— Martha, w. of Thomas B., d. Feb. 23, 1837, ag. 34.

Kind angels guard my sleeping dust, Till Christ shall come to raise the just ;
Then may I wake in sweet surprize, And in my Saviour's inage rise.

———— Hannah w. of William, d. May 5, 1824 aged 65.

———— Charles Henry, son of Charles and Mary B., d. May 10, 1838, aged 11 months. also Fanny, their dr., d. Oct. 11, 1840, ag. 1 year 9 months.

BANTING, James, d. Nov. 8, 1822, ag. 73. Martha his wife d. Nov. 27, 1830, ag. 81,

BARKER, R....., A. M. obiit Feb. 27, 1778, ag. 35.

BARTLETT, John, son of Richard and Mary, d. April also Mary w. of Richard B. d. May 7, 1729, ag. 45.

———— Thomas, and Ann his w., he d. Feb. 12, 1779, ag. 71 ; she died Aug. 20, 1759.

———— Thomas, died June 10, 1813, ag. 71.

Loving, beloved, in all relations true,
Exposed to follies, but subdued by few ;
Reader reflect and copy if you can,
The social virtues of this honest man.

———— Ann, wife of Thomas Bartlett, d. Jan. 14, 1836, aged 85—also Sarah, dr. of Thomas and Ann Bartlett, d. March 18, 1812, ag. 30.

———— John, of Aston, died May 21, 1827, aged 72.—Mary, his w., died Jan. 5, 1815, aged 60.

My life was burdensome to me,
Till Christ my God did set me free

From all sorrow grief and pain—

We trust in Christ to rise again.

——— Emily, Violetta, and Frances, daughters of Joseph and Elizabeth. E. Em. d. Jan. 18, 1832, aged 2; Vio. d. Jan. 28, 1832, aged 7; Frances of George Knapp, d. May 17, 1837, aged 21;—also children, died infancy.

——— Thomas, d. Aug. 15, 1833, aged 28.

——— William, d. March 9, 1835, aged 37.

Barnes, William, d. June 28, 1771, ag. 67.

——— Jonathan, d. June 6, 1787, ag. 63.

Barnes, Edward, d. May 27, 1827, ag. 72.

——— Emma, daughter of John and Mary, died Nov. 29, 1827, aged 3 yrs 9 months.

——— James Johnson, son of Thomas Hicks and Anna Maria Bateman, d. March 14, 1838, aged 6 months.

Barns, Mary.

Draw near to me, my children dear,

See where your mother lies:

Close in the dust until the day,

Our bodies shall arise.

To part with you great grief it was,

More joys far to meet:

I hope for merry at that day,

And there to meet with you.

Barns, Mary, wife of William, d. Dec. 11, 1834, aged 72.

Reader, live well, and fear no sudden call,

For soon or late grim death will seize us all;

A life well spent will look death in the face;

My glass is run, and time doth waste space.

——— Elizabeth, w. of Richard, late of New, d. June 25, 1812, ag. 25.

Short was the time I was a wife, Before I did resign my life.

Unto my blessed Saviour's trust, Hoping to rise among the just.

Bewer, John, died Jan. 4, 1817, ag. 57.

Bewer, Ann, d. May 7, 1808, ag. 35.

——— Elizabeth, dr. of Richard and Ann, d. Jan. 5, 1795, ag. 41.

Beavron, Georgiana, d. May 2, 1843, ag. 21 years 8 months.

Benson, Joseph, son of Joseph and Mary B., died Dec. 1779.

Benson, William, gentleman, d. Aug. 23, 1841 ag. 62.

Boscan, Susan Dorothy, d. Sep. 1, 1831, aged 17.

Boscock, George, son of Wm. and Elizabeth B., d. March 19, 1836, ag. 4 yrs 10 mo.

Here lies a child to parents dear, Christ called him hence his joys to share;

We hope in Heaven we shall him find, Which heals the troubles of our mind.

Boxer, ——— and Mary, his w., he d. Sep. —17— ag. 71, she d. — 1731, ag. 78.

Boxrow, Rev. Thomas, 38 years vicar of Hampton, d. Jan. 30, 1837, aged 71.

Boyer, Mary, w. of John, d. Aug. 18, 1800, ag. 50.

CARPENTER, John, died Dec. 27, 1790, ag. 74.

Cass, Rev. Thomas William, B. A., late scholar on Jackson's foundation at Merton College, Oxford, d. Ap. 19, 1837, ag. 27. also Rev. George Curr, M. A.

corate of Black Bourton, Oxon, d. June 5, 1840, ag. 35. Louisa C. d. Sep. 23 1840, ag. 73, & two m. Also Louisa C. organist of this par., d. Dec. 1844, ag. 38.

Carter, Ann, w. of Leonard, d. Sep. 20, 1766, ag. 63. also 3 children, Elizabeth

d. May 6, 1746, ag. 3; Edward d. Sep 3, 1717, ag. 1; Ann d. May 13, 1756, ag. 9.

——— Leonard, died Dec. 27, 1772, aged 59.

——— Thomas and Ann, s. and dr. of Leonard and Mary C. Ann died June 25

1782, aged 12 y.; Thos. died May 1, 1792, aged 8.

——— Michael, died Jan. 5, 1817, aged 72.

Leonard, d. Aug. 12, 1814, ag. 69 — Mary his w. d. Dec. 10, 1820, ag. 80.

Hannah, wife of Joseph, died June 19, 1800, aged 28.

A loving wife, a friend most dear, A tender mother lieth here;
Affliction's sore she with patience bore, Physicians were in vain:
Till death did seize, and God did please, To ease her of her pain.
Though great my loss, I hope with joy In heaven to meet again.

Margaret, died Nov. 14, 1823, aged 66.

A sudden change, she in a moment fell,
And had not time to bid her friend farewell:
Think nothing strange that happens unto all,
Her lot's to day, tomorrow thine may fall.

CARTER, John, d. April 30, 1671.

Humphrey, d. Oct. 2, 1693.

Francis, s. of Francis and Mary, d. May 31, 1709—also MARY, w. of F.
C., d. March 26, 1720.

Elizabeth, dr. of John and Joan. d. May 17, 1726, ag. 17.

CHARWOOD, Ann, wife of Thomas, died Oct. 27, 1790, ag. 25.

CHURCH, Henry, and Mary, his wife, he d. Sep. 9, 1726, ag. ... she d. Dec. 29, 1751,
ag. 77. — HENRY and RICHARD, sons of Henry and Mary C. Henry d. June 1,
1767, ag. 64. Richard d. Nov. ... 1726, ag. 20 yrs. — also MARY MERRY, and
ELIZABETH, C. drs. of Henry and Mary C. Mary d. Feb. 3, 1747, ag. 15 years.
Elizabeth d. Dec. 9, 1728, ag. 19 years.

Mary daughter of William and Catharine, d. May 4, 1803, ag. 18.

CLACK, Catharine and Ann, daughters of Richard Clack; Catharine d. Jan.
12, 1817, aS. 35; Ann d. Nov. 28, 1814, ag. 24.

Sophia, w. of Samuel, d. Feb. 13, 1831, ag. 59.

Now I lie buried deep in dust, My flesh is still my care;
These with ring limbs to thee I trust, To raise them strong and fair.

Leah, wife of James C. d. July 29, 1845, aged 33.—Jesse John Lindsay C.,
son of James C., d. July 3, 1845, ag. 1 year 8 months.

For that inevitable road, That leads him to his last abode,
None can too well prepare: Or weigh too wisely, ere he go,
The good or ill his soul must know, When brought to judgement there.

CLARK, Elizth, w. of Robt, dau. of Thos and Frances Fox, of Aston, d. June 12,
1712.

[This inscription is given from the Rawlinson MS, as having been placed
under the sculpture of Christ and the 12 apostles: it is now destroyed.]

Beneath this stone and in this dusty bed
Is lodged with me the babe my bowells bred
When thirty years was swiftly passed away,
On earth but few months more I had to stay,
My tender freinds most sadly greiv'd and cry'd
But cruel death will never be denyed.
To leave this world prepare, you passers by,
Make sure of Christ, before you come to dye,
That from the grave in honor you may rise
To meet your Saviour in the flaming skies.

Richard, d. Ap. 13, 1806, ag. 56.

Rich., senior, d. March 21, 1814, ag. 72.

Margaret, w. of Rich. C., d. Jan. 7, 1823, aged 72.

CLINCH, Mary, w. of William, d. Dec. 2, 1837, aged 37.

If e'er sharp sorrow from thine eyes did flow,
If e'er thy bosom felt another's woe,
If e'er fair beauty's charms thy heart did prove,
If e'er the offspring of thy virtuous love
Bloom'd to thy wish, or to thy soul was dear,
This plaintive stone will ask thee for a tear,
For her, alas! too early snatch'd away,
All that was lovely death hath made his prey.
No more her cheeks with crimson roses vie,

No more the diamond sparkles in her eye,
 Her breath no more its balmy sweets can boast,
 Alas that breath with all its sweets is lost.
 Like opening roses drooping lilies tell,
 Like those she bloom'd, and ah! like these she fell;
 In circling leaves let the pale ivy grow
 And distant yews a sable shade bestow.
 Round her, ye graces, constant vigils keep,
 And guard, fair innocence, her sacred sleep,
 Till that bright morn shall wake the beauteous clay
 To bloom and sparkle in eternal day.

CLINCH, William, son of John and Sarah, d. Jan. 25, 1817, ag. 15.

—— John, d. May 25, 1832, ag. 37. Sarah his w. d. Sep. 27, 1840, ag. 65

COLLINGWOOD, Bartholomew, d. Dec. 20, 1730, ag. 40 — HANNAH his w.
 June 10, 1747, aged 50. BARTHOLOMEW their son, from Witney, d. young.

—— Bartholomew, senior, d. April 1, 1714, aged 72.

As I am so must you be, Prepare with speed to follow me.

—— Benjamin, d. April 28, 1789, aged 71.

—— John, of Lew, d. Feb. 4, 1844, ag. 94.

COLLINS, Susanna, w. of Simon C., died Aug. 31, 1787, ag. 48.

With patience to the Lord she did submit,
 And murmured not at what the Lord thought fit:
 She with a Christian courage did resign
 Her soul to God at his appointed time.

—— Simon, d. March 1, 1807, ag. 78.

Dear children all I pray agree, And serve the Lord and follow me:
 Serve your God while you have breath, There's no repentance after death.

—— Mary, daughter of Simon and Susanna, d. April 4, 1804, ag. 14.

While in this world I did remain, My latter end was grief and pain,
 But when the Lord he thought it best, He took me to a place of rest.

—— Thomas, d. Dec. 23, 1844, ag. 79.

COOKE, Thomas, B. D. archd. of Salop., rect. of Drayton, & vic. of Bam., d.
 6, 1669, ag. 73. Elizab. Wiat, mother of Priscilla w. of Th. Cooke, d. May
 1668, ag. 82. [long Latin inscription]

—— John, d. Feb. 12, 1832, ag. 49.

If three score years and ten we stay, 'Tis but a shadow past away,
 But lands the saints with Christ above In the sweet sun-beam of his love.

COPELAND, Mary wife of William C. d. Feb. 26, 1807, ag. 73.

CORK, Richard, of Lew, d. Jan. 28, 1718. also his wife

CRIPPS, Mrs Michael, ancient and worthy citizen of Ox. d. Nov. 27, 1693, ag.

Near to this place enclosed I lie, A victim to mortality;
 My years were many, but are past, And hither I am come at last,
 To sleep in dust, a destined fate: Which some feel early, others late:
 Your time's uncertain, but will come, And every man's appointed doome.
 Wherefore prepare to take great heede; Mark well thy steps, be good with spee
 Trust to thy Saviour for thy gain, And thou through him shalt life obtain.

—— Elizabeth, w. of John C., d. Aug. 26, 1791, ag. 25. Susannah, their
 d. Sep. 5, 1704, ag. 5.

—— Mary wife of Thomas, d. July 19, 1819 ag. 23. — also 3 inf. child.

Weep not for me my husband dear, Behold my body sleepeth here:
 My debt is paid, my grave you see, Then soon prepare to follow me.

CROFT, Mrs. Mary, a benefactor to this town, lies here.

CURD, Mrs Sarah, d. June 1, 1772, ag. 71.

DEWE, Richard, Senr. second of Mr. Richard D. late of Abingdon, in the cou
 of Berks, esquire, died Sep. 14, 1684, ag. 60.

—— John, Esq. &c. d. Ap. 23, 1759, ag. 50. monument erected by his sis
 Jane and Mary Dewe. Anna Maria his sister, d. Aug. 19, 1753.

—— Richard, and Jane his w., he d. Ap. 5, 1728, ag. 18 [Latins.]

DRINKWATER, Margaret, w. of William, d. Feb. 13, 1718, ag. 71.

DUBBER, Ann, 1775.

DUTTON, Ann, wife, of Richard D., d. Nov. 15, 1799, ag. 33.—also four children, John, d. Jan. 4, 1776, ag. 18 ms., Sarah, d. Aug. 2, 1777, ag. 8 days, Margaret, d. Feb. 18, 1789, ag. 2 yrs. Thomas d. Oct. 4, 1794, ag. 19.

— Richard, d. June 10, 1813, ag. 67.

— Catharine, dau. of Richard and Ann, d. March 24, 1806, ag. 21.

EATON, Elizabeth, wife of Thomas, d. Oct. 2, 1776, ag. 43.

My friends of me are now bereft, And I within this tomb am left.

But no—my body is not I; For I am blessed in the sky.

— Ann, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth, d. May 1, 1789, ag. 23.

— Thomas, d. May 29, 1816, ag. 82.

Long in this world I did remain : My latter end was grief and pain :

But when the Lord he thought it best, He took me to His place of rest.

EDMONDS, Johan. A. M., hujus eccl. Vicar., ob. 21 Ap. 1743, ætat. suæ 130.

ELDRIDGE, Joseph, died Feb. 28, 1809, aged 72.

FAWDERY, Michael, d. Sep. 3, 1726. Anne, w. of M. F., and Jane, w. of

Richard Mahun, d. Jan. 17, 1740, aged 60. Mary Fawdery, dr. of the above

Michael F. Anne Mallam, d. Dec. ag.

FELL, Leonardi, Hic reliquæ ponuntur Leonardi Fell, infantis, qui obiit 30 nonarum Feb., MDCCVI. Serius aut citius metam properamus ad unam.

FISHER, Hannah, dr. of Edward and Catharine Sarah Fisher, d. Jan. 27, 1837, aged 26. Edward, their son, d. May 24, 1838, ag. 18.

Just in my youthful blooming years, I left my friends with weeping tears,

My time was short I could no longer stay, My dear Redeemer called me away,

— Thomas, son of Edward and Catharine Sarah F., d. Dec. 23, 1810, aged 27, leaving a wife and two single children. Lucy, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth F., d. Jan. 21, 1843, ag. 3 years 2 months.

Fox, Michael, d. Feb. 1, 1761, ag. 22.

— Mary, dr. of John F. and wife of Thomas Saunders, formerly butler of Trinity Coll., Ox., d. Dec. 31, 1772, ag. 57.

— Francis, d. Nov. 4, 1792, ag. 70. John Fox, d. 22, 1801, ag. 83.

— Mary, w. of John, d. Jan. 7, 1797, aged 39 yrs. John Fox d.

— Charlotte, dr. of Thos and Maria F. of Aston in this p. d. Aug. 16, 1819 ag. 21

Farewell, my friends, who loved me so dear;

I'm gone to rest you have no cause to fear.

My time was short, I could no longer stay,

My dear Redeemer called me away.

— John late of Aston. d. Aug. 7, 1823.

A loving husband and a father dear, A faithful friend lies buried here.

— James, son of John and Hannah, late of Aston, d. June 6, 1827, ag. 34.

My wife and children dear, As I have left behind,

Be prepared to follow me, And bear me in your mind.

Great sorrow it was to part with you, More joys for to ensue,

And with the just I hope to rise And there to meet with you.

— Joseph, gent., d. Aug. 23, 1802, ag. 62.

— Richard, son William and Sarah, d. March 15, 1821, ag. 26 years.

From dust thou art; to dust must fall; Think oft on this and on God call.

This life how short, how sure the grave, Make no delay your soul to save.

— Mary, dr. of John and Mary, d. Dec. 22, 1835, ag. 32. 3 s. and 1 dr. d. infants.

— John, d. March 21, 1841, ag. 64.

— Maria, w. of Thos., d. Dec. 27, 1837, ag. 65.

All flesh is grass and turns to dust, Mortals are born to die;

Live well and put in Christ your trust, And hope for endless joy.

— William, son of Wm. and Sarah, of Ducklington, d. Sep. 27, 1836, ag. 21.

Christ is my life, though body die, My soul with Christ lives joyfully,

My life's not lost; refrain your tears, My life's but hid till Christ appears.

— John, son of William and Sarah, of Claywell, d. Jan. 11, 1829, ag. 42.

A lingering sickness did me seize, which no Physician could me ease,

At length the Lord he thought it best To take me to a place of rest.

— Richard d. Oct. 21, 1779. Mary his w., d. Nov. 2, 1781.

— Mary, widow, d. Ap. 15, 1793, ag. 77. Mary w. of Joseph, d. same day, ag. 51.

- Elizabeth, d. Feb. 23, 1817, ag. 75.
 — Sarah, w. of William, d. June 24, 1777, ag. 38.
 FREDERIC, Dorothy, d. Sep. 14, 1763.—Mrs. Martha F. d. Jan. 15, 1768.—Garcoygne F. Esq., d. Jan. 25, 1780.—Mrs. Mary F. d. April 20, 1783.—Mrs. Susanna. F. d. May 27, 1798.
 FROST, Ella, dr. of Samuel and Jane, d. Ap. 9, 1799, ag. 3 yrs. 7 ms.—George Frost, d. Nov. 21, 1840, ag. 45.
 GEEVES, Robert, d. May 21, 1703. Anthony, Nov. 22, 1712, ag. 87.
 GILLETT, Nora, d. May 20, 1845, ag. 8 months.
 GILES, Wm Hy, s. of Tho. and Mary, d. Aug. 19, 1844, ag. 28 v.
 GODWIN, Richard, of Leachlade in Glostershire, late servant to Doctor Fortescue, d. March 6, 1762, ag. 57.
 GOWER, three infants of John Gower Esquire and Anne his Wife, namely Anne G. buried March 28, 1676.—William G. buried Feb. 14, 1679,—and Mary G. buried May 2, 1679.
 Reader, wouldst thou eternal life secure.
 Present thy soul to God as ours pure.
 GREEN, Bernard, d. April 15, 1811, ag. 74.—Bernard Green junior, d. Sep. 25, 1827, aged 62.
 GROVES, Elizabeth, dr. of George and Mary G., d. May 11, 1806, ag. 23.
 — Mary, w. of George G., d. March 12, 1779, ag. 28 yrs.—Ann, and Sarah, their infant daughters.
 — George, d. July 22, 1799, ag. 56.—William, son of George and Mary G., d. June 7, 1794, ag. 18.—Mary w. of George G., d. May 29, 1793, ag. 41.
 — George, son of George and Mary G., d. Feb. 19, 1816, ag. 30.
 HARRIS, Elinor, w. of James, d. Dec. 19, 1758, ag. 43.
 — Robert, late of Coate, d. Feb. 28, 1793, ag. 54.
 — Elizabeth, w. of William, (late of Aston) d. Aug. 20, 1791.
 — Mrs Sarah, late of Coate, d. Dec. 26, 1842, ag. 82.
 HAWKINS, William, A. M., of Whitechurch, Dorsetshire, and formerly Professor of poetry in the Univ. of Oxford; d. July 12, 1801, ag. 79.—also William Hawkins M. A., his son, fellow of Pemb. Coll. Ox., d. Oct. 12, 1801, ag. 48.
 HAWTREY, Rev. Chas., vicar of two portions of Bampton, d. June 23, 1796, ag. 63.
 HERBERT, Eleanor, d. Dec. 21, 1810, ag. 82.
 HIGGINS, William, d. Nov. 19, 1843, ag. 50.
 HILL, Dorothy, w. of Roger, buried the 18 of April, 1673.
 — Peter, d. Feb. 9, 1786, ag. 80.
 — Ann, wife of Peter, d. Feb. 5, 1780, ag. 60.
 — Samuel, d. Aug. 21, 1823, ag. 73.
 — Elizabeth, w. of d. Nov. 10, 1807, ag. 66.
 HITCHCOCK, Mary, d. Aug. 28, 1801, ag. 35.
 HOLCOT, Robert, d. Oct. 25, 1600.
 Orate pro anima venerabilis ac scientifi viri, magistri Roberti Holcot, sacerdotis ac archimagistri, necnon hujus insignis ecclesie vicarii vitam dum agitaret in humanis: qui Domino obdormivit mensis Octobris luce vicesima quinta, anno CCCCco. Huic propicietur ille, cui omnium rerum prima potestas.
 HOLFORD, Elizabeth, d. Jan. 11, 1819, ag. 73.
 HOLIDAY, Michael, d. Ap. 3, 1819. also Ann his w. d. May 22, 1808.
 HONEYBONE, John, late servant to Mrs. Needham, d. Jan. 16, 1780, ag. 53.
 HORDE, Frances, w. of Sir Th. H., d. July 23, 1633, ag. 36.
 — Thomas, esq. eldest son of Sir Th. H. d. Nov. 1, 1715, ag. 92.—Barbara his first w. d. Aug. 12, 1671, ag. 44.
 Seeke not in marble, nor this straitened room,
 But country's greife her epitaph and tombe:
 This keeps her dust, her mem'ry that shall keep,
 While men can vertue love or losses weepe.
 — Charles, eld. s. of Tho. & Bar., d. July 29, 1693, ag. 37.
 — Susanna, second w. of Tho H., Aug. 12, 1680, ag. 37.
 [The genealogies of the Horde family given on these tombs are too long to be here enumerated.]

HUDSON, Rob., and Jane, his w., he d. March 26, 1768, ag. 65, she d. Nov. 5 1774, aged 75.

As those we love decay, we die in part,
String after string is loosen'd from the heart,
Till lengthen'd life at last, but breathing clay,
Without one pang is glad to fall away.

——— Robt, d. Jan. 16, 1805, ag. 70. Ann, his dr., d. Ap. 15, 1837, ag. 2 ys 8 ms.
The dear delights we here enjoy, And fondly call our own,
Are but short favour lent us now, To be repaid anon. —

Distrust and darkness of a future state
Make poor mankind so fearful of their fate :
Death in itself is nothing, but we fear

To be we know not what, we know not where.

HURCOMB, Thomas, son of Wm. and Sarah H., died October 15, 1775, aged 17.

——— Wm, d. Jan. 1, 1786, ag. 63.

——— Sarah, w. of Wm, d. Feb. 13, 1787, ag. 51.

——— William, son of William and Sarah Hurcomb, died July 3, 1788, ag. 36.

——— Maria, w. of John Hurcomb, d. Jan. 3, 1811, aged 91.

——— John, d. March 17, 1843, aged 84.

HUTTON, Ann, w. of Edward, and dr. of Chs. and Mary Higgins, of Hatford, Berks
d. July 12, 1799, aged 59 years.

JEEVES, Edward, late of Lew, d. Dec. 28, 1831, aged 79. — also Thomas Jeeves,
d. Feb. 28, 1832, aged 76.

JOHNSON, Thomas, of Lew, d. Apr. 1, 1805, aged 65.

Here lies the only comfort of my life,
Who was the best of husbands to a wife,
Since he is not, no joy I e'er shall have,
Till laid by him within his silent grave.
Here we shall sleep and quietly remain
Till by God's power we meet in Heaven again.

——— Eliza, his wife, d. Feb. 9, 1824, aged 77.

——— Sarah, w. of Thos. d. July 7, 1809, ag. 64.

——— James, d. Nov. 12, 1846, aged 67 yrs. Also Mary his w., d. Aug. 19,
1845, ag. 61.

Here lies the mortal part of a beloved wife,
Prudent in all her conduct when in life ;
A tender mother, faithful consort here ;
Lamented by her spouse and children dear ;
She died, but is not dead, for yet she lives
With God and Christ, eternal life who gives.
Mourn not her loss : she's only gone before,
And strive to follow her, to part no more.

——— Samuel, d. Dec. 14, 1768, aged 65. also Alice, his wife, d. Feb. 27, 1785.

——— Thomas, d. Dec. 7, 1822, aged 75.

——— Thos, d. Ap. 17, 1832, ag. 51.

——— Hannah, wife of Thos, d. Nov. 16, 1838, ag. 62.

JONES, Elizabeth, w. of Samuel, of St. Clement Dane, London, 2d dr. of John and
Ann King, innkeeper, of this parish, d. Oct. 2, 1826, aged 24.

——— John Orpwood, d. April 4, 1827, aged 28.

——— Mr. Samuel, late of St. Clement Dane, London, d. Feb. 18, 1835, aged 35.

——— Hannah Munro, dr. of Moses and Ann J., d. April 20, 1840, aged 15.

KAVI, Thos, M. A. — "Round the verge of a marble lying on the ground, now
.....lost: Hic jacet magister Thomas Kavi, artium magister, quondam hujus
ecclesie vicarius, qui obiit XXIIII die mensis Septembris, an. Dom. millesimo
CCCC cujus animæ propitiatur Deus," RAWLINSON MS. This marble
is now destroyed

KEARSE, Mary, wife of Thomas, senior, of Black Bourton, d. Dec. 17, 1773.

- Priscilla, daughter of Robert and Mary, d. Sep. 7, 1799, aged 12.
- KENT, Anthony, d. Sep. 9, 1707, aged 27.
- KING, Rachel, wife of Walter K., d. April 20, 1783, aged 42 years.
- Kezia, wife of Wm King junior, d. April 20, 1824, aged 49 years. also Priscilla their daughter, d. Dec. 23, 1824, aged 19.
- Wm, sen. d. Jan. 20, 1801, aged 45. Sarah, his w. d. May 24, 1827, ag. 70.
- William, late plumber and glazier &c. d. Jan. 29, 1837, aged 56.
- J. S., d. Feb. 13, 1831, ag. 58. Ann, his wife, d. May 15, 1842, ag. 64.
- KNAPP, George, d. Jan. 18, 1792.
- Catharine, wife of George, d. April 4, 1803, aged 70.
- LAMBETH, Elizth, w. of Thos L., d. June 17, 1804, ag. 75. Richard & Robert, their sons; d. in infancy.
- Elizabeth, wife of James, d. Jan. 6, 1832, ag. 62.
- Deep interr'd in earth's dark tomb, The mould'ring body lies;
But the Christian from the tomb Shall soon triumphant rise.
- Simon Collins, d. July 31, 1837, aged 38.
- Weep not for me, my dear wife, But rather do rejoice.
Though I was called away so soon, I was the Almighty's choice.
- LARDNER, Waller, Sen., of Bamptone, d. Jan. 7, 1702, aged 72.
- Stand still, kind reader, spend a tear Upon the dust that sleepeth here,
And whilst you read this state of mine, Think of the glass that runs of thine.
- LAURENCE, ..., s. of Rich. & Sarah L., of Astell, d. April 11, 1756, ag. 62.
- LEAKE, John s. of Thos and Hannah, d. Oct. 2, 1817, ag. 9 months.
- Beneath this stone an infant lies, Whose earth to ashes lent
Hereafter may more glorious rise, Though not more innocent.
- Elizabeth, wife of Thos, d. Dec. 22, 1812, ag. 49.
- There is no age that death will spare, All ages, they must die;
Therefore to die let all prepare, To live eternally.
- Thomas, d. July 4, 1819, aged 69.
- LEFORESTIER, Louis, d. Ap. 8, 1841, aged 8 months.
- LEVERID, Elizabeth, w. of John L., d. Aug. 10, 1670.
- LEWIS, Joseph, s. of John and Mary L., d. Oct. 29, 1774, ag. 29.
- LINDSEY, Mary, w. of Humphrey L., of Coate, d. March 11, 1774, ag. 80.
- Humphrey, of Coate, died June 5, 1775, aged 91.
- Edward, d. Aug. 30, 1813, ag. 79. also Ann L., d. April 26, 1817, ag. 63.
- This stone presents before th' unthinking throng
Th' instructive lesson, as they pass along;
Shews them how frail they are, how wise 't would be,
To seek a fitness for eternity.
- LISSETT, Rev. Rd, M. A., vicar of Oundle in Northamptonshire, d. Dec. 14, 1764, ag. 71. also Wm L., Gent., & Jane, his w., she d. Ap. 20, 1753. he d. Ap. 1, 1772.
- Mr William, gent., d. Mar. 17, 1791, ag. 65. also Eliza, relict of the said W. L., d. Nov. 18, 1796, ag. 80. Mrs. Jane his sister, d. Dec. 31, 1799, ag. 69.
- LODER, Mrs Dorothy of Hinton, co. Berks. esq., relict of John Hancks late of Bampton, died 1702. [From the Rawlinson MS.]
- MACE, Robert, d. Feb., 1682.
- MACCAUGHEY, Ann Washington, d. March 22, 1798, ag. 5 y. — RICHARD M., d. June 27, 1802, aged 2 years 3 months and 6 days.
- MALAM, Richard, d. July 13, 1773, ag. 88. JOHN, and MARY his wife, he d. Sep. 26, 1774, ag. 56. she d. July 24, 1775, ag. 54.
- MANDER, John, esq., d. Ap. 7, 1809, ag. 62. Mrs. Sarah M., his mother, died 1788. also JOHN NABBS, & Elizabeth, his w., he d. Ap. 3, 1770. she d. March 6, 1769.
- MARTIN, Mrs. Elizabeth, died Sept. 17, 1799, aged 80.
- MAY, Mary, spinster, d. Jan. 3, 1804, aged 93.
- In faith she dies, within she lies Here underneath, though without breath.
- MERCHANT, Elizabeth, w., of William, d. July, 18, 1734, aged 53.
- MERRICK, Mary, daughter of John and Ann, buried Jan. 18, 1788, ag. 30. — also

Ann, w. of John M., buried Sep. 18, 1772, ag. 39. — also Wm, s. of John and Ann, buried Feb. 3, 1778, aged 6.

Affliction's sore long time I bore, Physicians were in vain,
Till the Lord pleased Death should me seize, To ease me of my pain.

MILLER, David, second s. of David and Martha, d. Mar. 7, 1804, ag. 4 y. 11 m.
Beneath a lovely infant lies, To earth his body lent
More glorious shall hereafter rise, Though not more innocent;
When the archangel's trump shall blow, And souls to bodies join,
Millions will wish their lives below, Had been as short as thine.

MILLER, DAVID, died Feb. 27, 1829, aged 73.

MONK, Jn. and Mary his w. He d. Jan. 21, 1787, ag. 59. She d. Dec. 19, 1809, ag. 75.

— Elizabeth, d. Feb. 24, 1826, aged 62.

You that are young, prepare to die, I once was young, but here I lie,
My marriage-bed lies in the dust, Christ is my spouse, in whom I trust.

— Mary, d. of William and Mary M., d. Sep. 21, 1851, aged 26.

Kind angels guard this sleeping dust, Till Christ shall come to raise the just;
Then may she wake in sweet surprise, And in her Saviour's image rise.

— John, died Oct. 24, 1837, aged 52.

Farewell, my wife and children dear, I'm gone to rest, you need not fear.

In love we lived; in peace I died, You crav'd my life, but God denied;

Grieve not for me, 'tis in vain, I hope in Heaven to meet again.

— Wm, late of Aston, died Jan. 16, 1858, ag. 82.

Keep death and judgment always in your eye,

None are fit to live who are not fit to die:

Make use of present time, because you must

Take up your lodgings, shortly, in the dust:

'Tis dreadful to behold the setting sun,

And night approaching ere your work is done.

MORSE, Richard, died Dec. 3, 1817, aged 52.

MYNCHINGE, Roberte, of, d. Sep. 14, 1611.

NEWMAN, Mr. Edw., d. Jan. 8, 1775, aged 68.

ORPWOOD, Wm, d. Aug. 13, 1709, aged 28. Wm, d. June 24, 1731, ag. 58.

— Wm, buried July 23, 1750, aged 83.

— Thos, and Mary, his w., he d. Dec. 27, 1775 ag. 88. she d. May 21, 1770,
ag. 75. — Ann their grddr. buried Feb. 1, 1771, ag. 24.

— William, son of Jn and Hannah, d. Jan. 3, 1779, ag. 50 years.

— Hannah, w. of John. O., d. Oct. 13, 1800, ag. 77.

— Jn, d. Feb. 20, 1807, ag. 86.

— Elizth, d. Jan. 5, 1811, ag. 77.

There is no age that death will spare, All ages they must die;

Therefore to die let all prepare To live eternally.

PALMER, Barb., wid., eldest dr. of Thos. Horde, esq., who d. Jan. 7, 1681 ag.
27, and left 3 sons, named Giles, John and Thomas.

PARKER, Thos. A. M., ob. Feb. 27, 1778, æt. 35o.

PAWLING, Hannah, w. of Wm. P, d. June 7, 1752, ag. 4 yrs. — Hannah their dr.
d. May 6, 17..2 ag. 8 yrs.

— William, d. May 23, 1799, ag. 63. Ann P., his mother, d. Dec. 18

PETTIFER, Sarah, w. of Edwd, d. March 27, 1775, ag. 32. Eleanor, dr. of Wm
and Ann P., d. March 16, 1781, ag. 10 months.

— Elizth, w. of Edwd, d. Jan. 26, 1826, ag. 73. Edwd P., d. June 20, ag. 89.

— John, son of Edwd and Elizth, d. April 1, 1706, ag. 17 yrs.

PHILIPS, Stephen. Hic jacet Stephanus Philips, S. T. P. Obiit 1684.

— Rev. Step., D. D. d. Aug. 20, 1784. ag. 46. mon. erected by his widow Mary,
dau. of Thos. Cooke.

STEPHANO PHILIPS, S. T. P. hujus ecclesiæ vicario, Archidiacono Salopiæ,
ecclesiæ cathedralis Herefordensis canonico, MARIA, vidua ejus maestissima,

(Reverendi Thomæ Cooke filia) marito optimo H. M. P. *quæ ex concordi cum illo conjugio septem filios enixa est. Ne mireris, lector, tot honores in unum congestos. vivus quippe omnibus parem se præstitit, moriens superiorem.* Obiit Aug. 20, anno ætatis 46,— Domini 1784.

PINCOT, Elizth. died Apr. 29, 1805, aged 74.

Long in this world I did remain, My latter end was grief and pain.

And when the Lord he thought it best, He took me to a place of rest.

PLASTER, Wm. and Mary, his wife, d. June 6, 1797, ag. 35.—Sarah their inf. dr.

— Rob., s. of Rob. and Mary, d. Apr. 21. 1788, ag. 21.

— Rob., d. Feb. 15, 1810, ag. 78. Mary w. of Rob., d. Aug. 23, 1811, ag. 90.

— Margaret, w. of d. May 21, 1818, ag. 25.

PLYMMSWODE, Thomas. Hic jacet mag. Tho. Pl. quondam vicarius de Bamp. cujus animæ propicietur Deus. Amen.

POWELL, Sam., ob. Dec. 31, 1715, ag. 20 years. [From the Rawl. MS.]

PRICE, Mary, w. of Walter, late of Marcyhampton, Glost. d. Dec. 28, 1815, ag. 95.

PRICE, Jane, w. of Jn, d. Oct. 3. 1813, ag. 81. Mary Hudson, d. July 7, 1817, ag. 78.

PRYOR, Robt. d. March, 1701. Mary, his w., d. Dec., 1792. Wm P., d. Jan. 18,

1828, ag. 80. Elizth, his w., d. Aug. 21, 1832, ag. 78. Wm P., d. June 25., 1751, ag. 62. Mary his w. d. May 19 1823, ag. 89.

PUSEY, Mary. w. of John, died ag. 63.

REYNOLDS, Rev. Wm., M. A., double portionist of B., d. Jan. 28, 1750, ag. 46.

RACHAEL, his w., d. Sep. 18, 1771, ag. 74. MARY, their dau., d. Dec. 23, 1744, ag. 19.

H. S. E. GUILIELMUS REYNOLDS, A. M ; Collegii Exoniensis aliquando socius, Scholæ civitatis Exon: publicæ Archididasculus, Dein hujus ecclesiæ per annos duplex portionista, vir ob mores amicissimos atque animi benevolentiam, ob eruditionem multiplicem, et in literis præcipue criticis eximium ingenii acumen, spectabilis: tabe consumptus ineluctabili, diem obiit supremum, Jan. 28, 1750, Anno ætatis 46to. Una condormit MARIA filia; quæ ex Rachaele uxore proles unica morte præmatura Patrem anteverit: obiit nempe Dec. 23, 1744, annos nata 19.—RACHAEL REYNOLDS vidua ob. 18 Sept. 1771, ætat. 74.

RICKETTS, Betty, w. of Joseph, late of Aston, d. March 11,..... ag. 79.

Farewell my children & relations dear, I'm gone to rest; you have no cuase to fear.

Grieve not for me; in time apply; To meet that sentence all are doom'd to die:

So shall we meet again to part no more, But live with Christ in peace for evermore.

RIDGE, Thos. d. May 23, 1792, ag. 82. Elizth, his w. d. Sep. 18, 1765.

ROBERTS, Sarah, w. of Wm, d. Oct. 16, 1791, ag. 59. Maria, dr. of Wm and Sarah

R., d. March 11, 1779. ag. 12. — Sarah d. March 11, 1832, ag. 71. — Tabitha

R., d. June 6, 1832, ag. 68. — Wm, esq., d. Dec. th, 1813, ag. 77. — also

Eleanor Herbert, d. Dec. 21, 1310, aged 82.

— Maria, dr of Wm and Mary R., d. Sep. 17, 1822, ag. 20. — Fred. s. of

Wm and Mary R., d. in his inf.—Mary R., d. Nov. 3, 1830, ag. 33.

ROBINS, Jas, s. of Levi and Jane, d. May 28, 1818, ag. 8. Ann, their dr. d. June 8, 1826, ag. 2 months.

ROSE, Geo., (s. of Jas R., solr., and Elizth, his w.) d. June 12, 1813, ag. 26.

SAMMONS, Ann, w. of Thomas, d. Apr. 28, 1805, ag. 67.—Thos S., d. Oct. 27, 1779, ag. 52.

SANDELANDS, Elizth, w. of Jn S., d. Jan. 18, 1701. Elizth, d. of John and Elizth.

SAVORY, Jn. d. Jan. 3, 1808, ag. 23.

SEAREY, Ann, d. Sept. 19, 1780. Jn. S., d. Dec. 27, 1787, ag. 77.

— Charlotte, w. of Wm, d. May 21, 1808, ag. 40. Wm, s. of Wm & Charlotte.

— Elizth, w. of Wm, d. Sept. 21, 1817, ag. 38.

My husband and my children dear, It is God's will that I am here,

As I am, so must you be, Prepare therefore to follow me.

— Catharine, w. of John, d. March 31, 1804, ag. 67.

A Christian true, a friend sincere, In all her actions just,

- A tender faithful wife lies here, Consigned to native dust.
 Richard & Charlotte, their inf. child. also John, died April 27, 1807, ag. 72.
 Peace to thy gentle shade; thy soul is free; Death's but the gate to immortality!
- William, died Oct. 20, 1829, ag. 63.
 Here lies a careful & industrious man, Who did by labour measure out life's span,
 But now his latest grain of sand is run, And all his care and all his labour done.
 So, pray, for me no pity take, But love my children for my sake.
- Thomas, son of John and Catharine, d. Dec. 17, 1811, ag. 33. [Inscription
 in poetry, same as for Orpwood Elizth.]
- John, died January 2, 1821, ag. 56.
 Man's life, what is it? 'Tis a flower, Looks fresh and dies within an hour.
 How frail is man! how short his breath, In midst of life we are in Death.
- SHEPPARD, W. H., esq., 1715.
- SHINGLETON, Mary, w. of Joseph S. sen, d. May 4, 1774, ag. 72.
 Through all affliction God great comfort gave,
 And laid me peaceful in the silent grave,
 From which I hope to rise my God to see
 To dwell with Christ to all eternity.
- Jos., sen., d. Feb. 3, 1777, ag. 80.
- Sarah, w. of Jos. d. March 22, 1798, ag. 58. Jos. S. d. Dec. 20, 1813,
 aged 81.
- SHINGLETON, Geo Bryan, d. Sep. 11, 1834, ag. 60.
- SILVER, S., 1711, ag. 61. [From the Rawl. MS.]
- SIMS, John, d. Jan. 5, 1823, ag. 82. Margaret, his w. d. Feb. 21, 1823, ag. 78.
 While here on earth I did remain, My latter end was grief and pain,
 At length the Lord has thought it best To take me to a place of rest.
- Elizabeth, buried 1751, in the 80th year of her age.
- SKINNER, John, son of John and Jane, d. March 41, 1781, ag. 2 yrs. 3 ms.
- Ann, dr of John, d. May 1, 1787, in her infancy.
- Robt, and Elizth, his w., he d. Jan. 28, 1792, ag. 87. she d. Jan. 9,
 1790, aged 87.] Beneath this stone are laid an honest pair,
 Who three score years did various changes share;
 Tho' Heaven decreed them in an humble state,
 Yet were their lives more happy than the great,
 Blush then, ye rich and learn from hence to know,
 Contentment bliss below,
- Thos, d. Sept. 9, 1802, ag. 63. Mary his wife d. Dec. 6, 1813, ag. 77.
- Jane, wife of John, d. May 20, 1811, aged 67.
 A patient Christian through a suffering life, A tender mother and a loving wife,
 Though all shall fade, and Nature's self must die, Her pure and virtuous deeds to
 also John, her husband, d. Ap. 2, 1813, ag. 71. [Heaven shall fly.]
- SMITH, Wm, died March 15, 1815, aged 61. Thos, son of Wm & Ann, died in Lon-
 don, Dec. 31, 1793, aged 17 yrs. 9 mths. George, died in infancy. also Ann, wife
 of Wm, died Jan. 26, 1840, aged 76.
- SNELL, John, infant, died Sept. 3, 1691. Ann Snell, infant, died Sept. 12, 1696.
- Reverend Thos, S. T. B. [Lat. inscrip.] Mrs Elizth, his widow, daughter of
 the late Jno. Frederic esq., died Jan. 2, 1788, aged 81. [Latin inscription.]
- SPARROWHAWK, Wm, jun., d. Oct. 10, 1753, ag. 39. Mary his wife, d. Jan. 23, 1763,
 ag. 64. Wm, their son, d. Nov. 30, 1797, ag. 60. also seven infant children.
- Robt, d. Feb. 14, 1819, ag. 75. Sarah, his w., d. Nov. 1, 1794, ag. 37.
 also Thomas and John, their sons, died in infancy.
- SPENCER, Samuel, died May 8, 1841, aged 63.
- STEPHENS, Mary Clara, w., of Fred., grocer of Bamp., died March 15, 1844, ag. 32.
- STONE, Robt, d. Jan. 19, 1822, ag. 78. Sarah, his wife, d. Nov. 21, 1831, ag. 80.
- Robert. A husband kind, a father dear, A faithful friend is buried here,
 Call'd hence to sleep in peaceful dust, Till Christ shall raise him with the just.
- Thomas, son of Robert and Sarah, died June 23, 1831, aged 56.

SWEET, Elizabeth, died March 8, 1841, aged 85.

My eyes grew dim, my life it's thread has spun,
My soul is flown to God, from whence it sprung;
Wearied with age my hoary head declined,
In hopes through Christ some better place to find.

also Mary, daughter of the above, died July 29, 1833, aged 38.

TAYLOR, 4 daus. of Onesimus and Hannah : Mary, d., Aug. 6, 1752, ag. 1 month
Phebe, d. Ap. 11. 1757, ag. 4 yrs; a second Phebe, d. Feb. 1, 1761 ag. 2 yr
& 10 mths; Sophia, d. Ap. 5, 1762, ag. 9 mths.

— Onesimus, d. Ap. 10, 1778, ag. 47 yrs. and Hannah, his w., d. Oct. 31
1796, ag. 76 yrs.

— Robert T., son of On. & Han., d. Dec. 13, 1804, ag. 47 yrs.

— James T., son of On. & Han., d. Oct. 30, 1828, ag. 63 yrs: Esther, hi
w., d. March 12, 1829, ag. 67 yrs.

— Robt T., son of Jas & Est., d. Mar. 25, 1798 an infant.

— Ann T., second dau. of Henry and Ann, d. Nov. 30, 1827 ag. 2 yrs & 10
mths.

TEELING, Elizth, w., of Thos of Winkfield, Berks, d. Ap. 12, 1787, ag. 70. Rebecca
dr. of Wm & Rebecca Fitchew, d. July 26, 1789, ag. 4 yrs. 3 mths. also Hannah
dr. of Thos and Elizabeth Teeling died Oct. 9, 1789, ag. 34.

While pale disease upon her vitals prey'd, Her strength exhausted and her frame
decay'd

With painful steps life linger'd to the grave, When human art had lost the power
to save

Yet still kind Heaven disposed her virtuous mind, To bear with patience, and to
death resign'd

THOMSON, George, obiit 28 Novemb., 1603. [Inscription in poetry see Page 155.]

TOWNSEND, Rd, d. Sep. 12, 1771, ag. 64. Elizabeth, his w., d. Ap. 16, 1800, ag. 86

— Th., of Aston, died July 26, 1770, ag. 75. Eliz. his w. d. May 14, 1787,
aged 82.

— Richard, late of Aston, d. June 25, 1792, aged 50.

— John, died June 9, 1803, aged 71.

Dear wife and children, pray agree, To serve the Lord and follow me :

Serve God in time whilst you have breath, There's no repentance after death.

— Elizabeth, dr. of Wm and Ann, died July 2, 1784, aged 22.

Reader, from hence these lessons take, View death as always near;

Be wean'd from earthly things, and make Thy soul thy chiefest care.

— William, d. June 19, 1802, ag. 65. Ann, his v., d. Sep. 11, 1818, ag. 82.

— Elizabeth, wife of Thomas, died Jan. 23, 1802, aged 70.

Laden with years, by sickness prest, This pious matron came to rest,

A fair example of good life, She was a chaste and loving wife,

Her house did show her prudent care, She knew both how to spend and spare,

Mourn not, she's gone where tears do cease, Her upright life did end in peace.

also Thomas Townsend. died April 3, 1801, aged 63.

— Robert died April 10, 1827, aged 68.

Farewell my wife and children dear, It was the Lord that called me here,

Short was the warning which he gave, When I was summon'd to the grave,

But in the Lord I put my trust, And hope to rise among the just.

also Mary, his wife, died Feb. 1, 1833, aged 68.

— John, d. Mar. 15, 1829, ag. 72. Ann, his w., d. Jan. 6, 1821, ag. 59.

— Robert Caleb, d. Jan. 19, 1832, ag. 26. Mary Ann, dr. of Rob. Cal. &

Lydia T., in infancy. Thomas died Feb. 20, 1833, aged 43.

— Joseph, d. June 10, 1833, ag. 61. Jane, his wife, died June 16, 1837,
aged 64, also Charlotte, their dr., i ed Dec. 14, aged 30.

— Wm, late of Aston, d. Nov. 21, 1837, ag. 82. Thomas T., late of Chig-
well, son of the above. also Wm Townsend, d. Oct. 5, 1840, ag. 50
years.

——— Thos, d. May 9, 1841, ag. 74. Elizth, his w., d. June 17, 1843, ag. 79.
also John, William, David, and Sarah, his brothers and sisters; Jn, d. Mar. 28,
1831, ag. 68. Wm, d. Nov. 29, 1825, ag. 60. David, d. Nov. 30, 1821, ag. 49.

——— Ann, wife of John, died July 28, 1813, aged 74.

Dear reader, 'tis a serious thing to die, Thou soon must find it so as well as I :

If for our works we bliss or woe receive, Dear reader, 'tis a serious thing to live.

——— John, of Coate, died Sep. 1, 1818, aged 72.

VAISEY, John, infant, died Nov. 23, 1724.

WALKER, Jos., esq., d. Jan. 1, 1803, ag. 63. Elizth, his w., d. Mar. 9, 1818, ag. 63.

WARD, Jane, wife of Jas, dr. of John & Jane Skinner, d. Jan. 12, 1831, ag. 48.

also Sarah, mother of Jas W., died Aug. 8, 1834, aged 90.

WATTS, David, d. May 1, 1811, ag. 61. also Wm Munt W., son of the above by

Elizabeth, his wife, died Dec. 28, 1813.

WENMAN, Anthony, died 3, 1715. Richard, junior, died Nov. 8, 1740.

Who gave me life took it away. And turned my body into clay.

My time was short, and so may thine, Therefore prepare thyself in time.

——— Richard, died Sept. 27, 1722. [Inscrip. see Mary Batts.]

WHITAKER, Maria, w. of Wm Henry esq., of Fyfield, Berks, d. Aug. 2, 1839, ag. 53.

WHITE, William, and John, sons of John and Ann W. Willm died Aug. 24, 1712,
aged 2. John died Aug. 26, 1712.

WIAT, Elizabeth, wife of Dr. W., died anno 1688. arms, per pale.

WILLIAMS, John, & Ann, his wife, she died Aug. 19, 1790, aged 63. he died Jan. 17,

1801, aged 13. also their sons Charles and John died in their infancy.

WINSTANLEY. Rev. Wm Bankes, Master of the Grammar School in this town died
Sept. 30, 1843, aged 56.

WINSTANLEY, Rev. John Robinson, D. D. a vicar of this parish, died Dec. 36. 1843.

WINTER, Sarah, wife, of Joseph, died 1797, aged 15. Richard, died

It is said that this was the same Richard Winter, Tax-gatherer, of whom
some wit wrote the following clever epigram :

Here comes Richard Winter, collector of taxes ;

I advise you to pay him whatever he axes ;

And that very soon, and without any flummery,

For though his name's WINTER his acts are all SUMMARY.

WRIGHT, William, died Aug. 29, 1822, aged 59.

O Lord turn not thy face away From him that lies prostrate

Lamenting sore his sinful life Before thy mercy's gate,

A gate which opens wide to those, That do lament their sin.

Shut not that gate against me, Lord, But let me enter in.

——— Richard, of Snows Hill Gloucestershire, died Nov. 5, 1732, aged 24.

also Sarah, d. Aug. 4, 1787 ag. 16. ootstone T. T. 1781, E. T. 1843.

How vain are all encomiums on the dead !

How vain the stone with empty praise o'erspread !

No stately tomb can sooth the weeping wife,

No choice inscription raise the friend to life,

Death levels all ; the monarch and the slave

Alike must lie unnoticed in the grave.

WRIGHTSON, Louisa, daughter of Samuel and Anne, d. Aug. 1, 1802, ag. 6 years
6 months.

YEATMAN, Margaret, w. of Robt. Yeatman, Yeoman, d. Aug. 2, 1750, ag. 25.

also Robert Yeatman, yeoman, d. Feb. 19, 1792, ag. 74. Martha, w. of Rob.

Fisher, died Sep. 7, 1812, aged 87. Robert Fisher, died Dec. 9, 1829, aged 72.

He died in peace, but lived in pain, A welcome death his greatest gain.

The following were once found in Bamp. church-yard, but have been destroyed ;

Why should you mourn for I Seeing it is God's will

That man was born to die The Scripture to fulfil.

For the loss of friends Is much.

Do no evil for the Devil Will have you if you do,

Better 'twere given to you in Heaven To join the blessed few.

This world's a city full of crooked streets,
 Death is the market-place where all men meets ;
 Were life a merchandize that wealth could buy,
 The rich would live, none but the poor would die.

XXIV. IN ASTON CHURCH-YARD.

BAKER, Mr Rd, d. Aug. 21, 1845 ag. 58. Selina, dr. of Rd & Susanna, d. July 10, 1845, ag. 18. William, their son, died Aug. 26, 1845, aged 12 yrs.

BANTING, Ann, dr. of Ju & Ann, d. June 26, 1846, ag. 34. Weep not &c. see p. 163.

SPARROWHAWK, Mr. Wm, yeoman, died Jan. 27, 1842, aged 56 years.

TOWNSEND, John, son of Joseph and Jane T., d. Feb. 11, 1846, ag. 36.

Short was the warning that Death gave, When I was summon'd to the grave :
 So God was pleased to end my time, And cut me off just in my prime.

— Alfred, youngest son of David Watts T. & Sarah his w., of Coate d. March 2, 1842, aged 16 years.

Just in my youth and blooming years, I left my friends with weeping tears :
 God called in haste ; my soul did fly : I'm gone to rest eternally.

XXV. IN LEW CHURCH-YARD.

BATTS, Phoebe, dr. of Robert and Phoebe B., d. Dec. 5, 1845, aged 19 yrs.

Grieve not for me, my parents dear, I'm gone to rest you need not fear,
 God call'd in haste ; my soul did fly ; I'm gone to rest eternally,

In love we lived : in peace I died ; You craved my life but God denied.

Here lies a child that's dear to me ; Christ call'd her hence his joys to see.
 I hope in Heaven I shall her find, Which heals the troubles of my mind.

XXVI. IN SHIFFORD CHURCH AND CHURCH-YARD.

BAGGS, William, son of John and Elizabeth, d. Jan. 10, 1717, aged 20.

— Aaron, died Nov. 18, 1726.

BENNET, Edward, died Nov. 11, 1729, aged 78.

BLITHE, Mrs. Susan, w. of Mr. Adam Blithe, rector of Ogbourne St. George Wilts.,

Her father, Mr. Andreas Sonibanke, was a near relation to the Duke of Brunswick : her mother was of the ancient family of the Bradfords, of Ludlow, in Shropshire. This gentlewoman in her life-time made this following epitaph, to be set upon her tomb.

Christ, birth, life, death, And doleful payne,
 In life and death, to me is gaine.

She died Nov. 9, 1645, aged 75 years, and left issue only one daughter.

BROWN, Sophia, wife of Thomas B., of Brighthampton, d. Feb. 10, 1843, ag. 45,

A loving wife, a tender mother dear, A youthful friend lies buried here :

She lived belov'd, in peace she died, Her life was desired, but God denied.

also Sarah Ann, daughter of Thomas and Sophia B., d. Oct. 2, 1835, ag. 4 yrs.

— Thomas, son of Thos. and Sophia, of Brighthampton, d. May 1, 1843, aged 22.

With patience to the last &c. [Inscrip. see Susanna Collins.]

DARBY, Robert, late of Aston, d. Dec. 15, 1811, aged 72.

— Robert late of Cote, Smith and Farrier, d. Sep. 17 1772, aged 73. also

Mary his wife, d. Mar 30, 1801, aged 102 yrs. 11 ms.

LAMBETH, Thomas, d. May 15, 1803, aged 84.

LONG, Maria, w. of James, d. Oct. 18, 1819, ag. 24.

Farewell, vain world ! I bid adieu to thee, I value not what thou canst say of me ;

What faults thou seest in me, take care to shun, And look at home ; enough there's
 PINNOCK, William, d. Jan. 23, 1794, ag. 50. [to be done.]

— Mary, w. of John P., and d. of John and Ann Walter, of Stanton-

Harcourt, d. May 15, 1800, ag. 27.

Elizth, w. of Thomas, late of Brighthampton, d. May 23, 1817, ag. 83.

While here on earth a true and faithful friend,
Esteem'd by those who knew her to the end,
She never at the will of God repined,
But still enjoy'd a calm and heavenly mind,
Made God her refuge, in him put her trust,
And to his care resign'd her earthly dust.

Thomas, late Brighthampton, d. Sep. 39, 1818, ag. 53.

Afflictions sore long time I bore, And racking pains did long endure.
But did submit when God thought fit, Beneath I lie from pains releas'd.

Hannah, w. of Joseph, d. Nov. 12, 1821, ag. 43.

My latter days on earth was spent In pain severe, which God hath sent,
But now in peace I'm laid to sleep, With Jesus Christ I hope to meet;
My sorrow's past, also my pain, We only part to meet again.

Hannah, w. of Wm P., late of Brighthampt., d. Dec. 22, 1822, ag. 62.

Weep not for me, my children dear, Nor spend your hours in grief;
To Heaven address your fervent prayer, And there you'll find relief.
Despise this world, and onward press To reach the happy shore
Where troubles end and sorrows cease, And tears shall flow no more.

Hannah Maria, dr. of Wm & Hannah, d. July 18, 1823, ag. 20 yrs.

You readers all that passeth by, Pray think of death for you must die:
Repent in time, make no delay, I in my prime was call'd away;
My days are spent, my guess is run, And now, sweet Jesus, I am come!

Charles, late of Brighthampton, d. Apr. 99, 1828, ag. 83 yrs.

Sincere to all, and upright in his ways, And all his actions justly merit praise.

Blessed be those who live beloved by most, And died lamented are the greatest

Mercy, w. of Th. d. Ap. 22, 1833, ag. 34. Ellen, their infant dr. [loss.
also Esther, their daughter, d. Aug. 19, 1838, ag. 14.

Martha, dr. of Thos and Mercy P., d. Aug. 12, 1835, ag. 15 yrs.

Martha, wife of Thomas, d. Jan. 6, 1836, ag. 71.

A pale consumption gave the fatal blow,
The stroke was certain, but th' effect was slow.
With wasting pain death found me sore oppress,
Pitied my sighs and kindly gave me rest,

John, late of Standlake, d. suddenly Nov. 22, 1841, ag. 69. Caroline,
daughter of John and Mary P., d. Oct 26, 1841. also Esau, their infant son.

PRYOR, Wm, d. Ap. 5, 1723, ag. 52. insc. as above. see T. Brown.

WIGINGS, William, and Mary, his w., he d. March..., 1727, ag. 60. she d. Dec.
18, 1729, ag. 71.

Wherefore this is yet once again, My husband, my request,
To grant me pardon for my sin, That I in thee may rest.

WITHERS, Margery, w. of Waller W. of Brighthampton, d. Feb. 3, 1728, ag. 68.

WRIGHT, John d. July 25, 1706, ag. 15.

Mary, w. of Wm, late of Chimney, d. May 10, 1810, ag. 60. William,
their son, d. Aug. 20, 1786, ag. 21. also Sarah their dr., d. Sep. 26, 1706, ag. 10.

XXVII. IN COTE CHAPEL AND BURIAL-GROUND.

BAKER, John, of Yelford, d. Ap. 13, 1803, ag. 75. MARY, & SARAH, his wives,
Mary, d. July 29, 1760, ag. 75: Sarah, d. April 20, 1801, ag. 57.

Thomas, d. March 17, 1808, ag. 35.

COOMBS, Thos, d. Feb. 17, 1819, ag. 87. Elizth, his w., d. Jan. 17, 1828, ag. 87.

Behold her ancestors, a pious race, Rang'd in fair order at her sight rejoice,
And sing her welcome.

CUNE, John, d. July 18, 1837, ag. 77. Barb., his w., d. Aug. 18, 1836, ag. 72.

Behold the husband and the wife New joined together as in life:

appoint, though far from the town and on rich ground, and Qy, after the cottage is erected, it may not be again suddenly pulled down by another order of the Sessions, and Qy the poor man may not have his action against any of Aston and Cote or other person whatsoever that shall endeavour to pull down his house?

Bridgman.—I conceive, in the waste (by leave of the lord) a cottage may be erected, and no commoner or other, without leave of the lord, can pull it down if there be sufficient common left.

8.—Qy Mr. Horde may not justify the taking away the Hayward's Ham last year, the first Hayward refusing to be sworn, and the other to execute the office. Qy the first Hayward or any under him can maintain a good action against Mr. Horde for carrying away the hay of the Ham?

Bridgman.—This is in part answered before; the custom being good, Mr. Horde's justification will be bad.

9.—Qy Mr. Horde may not bring his action of trespass against the first Hayward for stocking the Common with a horse having broke out of the pound, and no suit thereupon?

Bridgman.—I think he cannot, *causa quia supra*.

10.—Qy Mr. Horde may not bring his action of trespass against any person overstocking the common of Aston though he hath no land there now in his own possession?

Bridgman.—The proper way is to have it presented in Court, or the lord may distrain the surplus for damage fessant.

11.—Qy The tenants of a manor may prescribe to Common for geese and pigs, and if the same root up and spoil the common, Qy the lord may not bring his action of trespass against the owner. And if the lord's pigs should do the like, who could bring any good action against him?

Bridgman.—There may be a prescription for cattle not commonable, but then the Common is not appendant but appurtenant: against the lord there is no remedy, but action of the case if the lord hinder him from having his common usually as he ought to have it.

12.—Qy All fishing, fowling, hawking, and hunting do not properly belong to the lord of the manor unless there be some particular grant to divert it to another, and Qy a tenant or freeholder can prescribe against the lord to take from him his fishing in his own freehold within his manor especially to fish the said common water?

Bridgman.—A prescription is good in such case for every prescription.

13.—And Qy Mr. Horde may not justify the nets of any

CHARACTERS: — *Father Christmas — Saint George — The Turkish Knight — The Doctor — Robin Hood — Little John.*

A CHRISTMAS MUMMERY,

FATHER CHRISTMAS.

"Here comes I Old Father Christmas; welcome or welcome not,"
 "I hope old father Christmas will never be forgot."
 There is a time for work, and there is a time for play.
 A time for to be melancholy, and for to be gay:
 A time for to be thrifty and a time for to be free:
 But, sure enough, at Christmas tide we all may jovial be:
 This is the time when Christ did come that we might happy be.
 So listen, all ye gentles, to what we now shall say,
 And take in kindness what we do to celebrate this day.
 St. George, the Doctor and the Turk are here together met;
 The Doctor has his physic and the knights' swords are sharp set:
 The one will kill the other and the Doctor raise him up,
 And then we all shall happy be with each his Christmas cup.
 And Robin Hood and little John will pass the beer-pot round,
 For two more jolly chaps on earth there never yet were found.
 So ladies all and gentlemen we pray you give good cheer
 To Old Father Christmas, for he comes but once a year!

SAINT GEORGE.

"Here comes I, Saint George the knight,"
 Who with the pagans used to fight.
 And with my sword and spear and valiant shield
 Can make a host of adversaries yield,
 I swear 'tis true, for though I am so pliant,
 In battle I'm as stout as any giant,
 And though I am so thin, can eat a calf,
 And yet not fill my belly — no, not half.
 Whoever doubts my word, just let him come,
 I'll slice him till he's blind and deaf and dumb.

THE TURKISH KNIGHT.

"Here comes I the Turkish knight,"
 "Come from Turkish lands to fight,"
 With brave Saint George, if he is here:
 And, if his heart don't quake with fear,
 I'll cut it out with my sharp sword,
 And eat it, — that I will upon my word.
 So let him come, if he will be so bold,
 And if his blood is hot, I'll make it cold.

— *They fight — the Turkish knight falls —*

SAINT GEORGE.

Is there no doctor in the land?

DOCTOR.

There is a doctor in the land,
 Skilful both in head and hand,
 For if a man has got a cough,
 I'll cure him without cutting his head off;
 And if a man has lost his head,
 I'll put a Donkey's on instead,
 And, if he will but pay me well,
 The secret I will never tell,
 But, if he will not pay, I'll leave the sinner

Aston Boges in the county of Oxon, of the one part, and the Ffreeholders, Leaseholders, and Copyholders of the said manor, and other the tenants and owners of lands in Aston aforesaid and in Cote, in the said county of Oxon, whose names are hereunto subscribed, of the other part, as followeth, viz :

WHEREAS it is considered that an inclosure of the arable fields of Aston and Cote aforesaid will conduce to the great improvement of every man's lands or living there, Now the said Thomas Horde, for the greater encouragement of his tenants there to make inclosure of any the lands which they there hold of him, doth hereby agree THAT if any tenant of the said Mr. Horde, having but two lives in his living,* or but one life and a widow's estate, and shall make any inclosure, Mr. Horde shall bear the third part of the charge, AND if the tenant shall have but one life without a widow's estate, then Mr. Horde to bear half the charge, AND if the estate of such tenant expire within four years after the inclosure made, then Mr. Horde to bear all the charge of every such inclosure, and the tenant to preserve the mounds being once made.

1. AND it is agreed that it shall be lawful at all times hereafter, as well for the Lord of the Manor of the time being as for all or any the tenants and owners of lands in Aston and Cote aforesaid, to inclose all or any their respective arable lands there.

2. AND it is agreed that Mr. Horde may, as soon as he pleaseth, inclose fifty-four field acres of arable land lying together in the Holiwell field next to the capital messuage in Cote aforesaid, which said LIIII acres is as much arable as usually belongs to two yard-lands in Aston and Cote aforesaid.

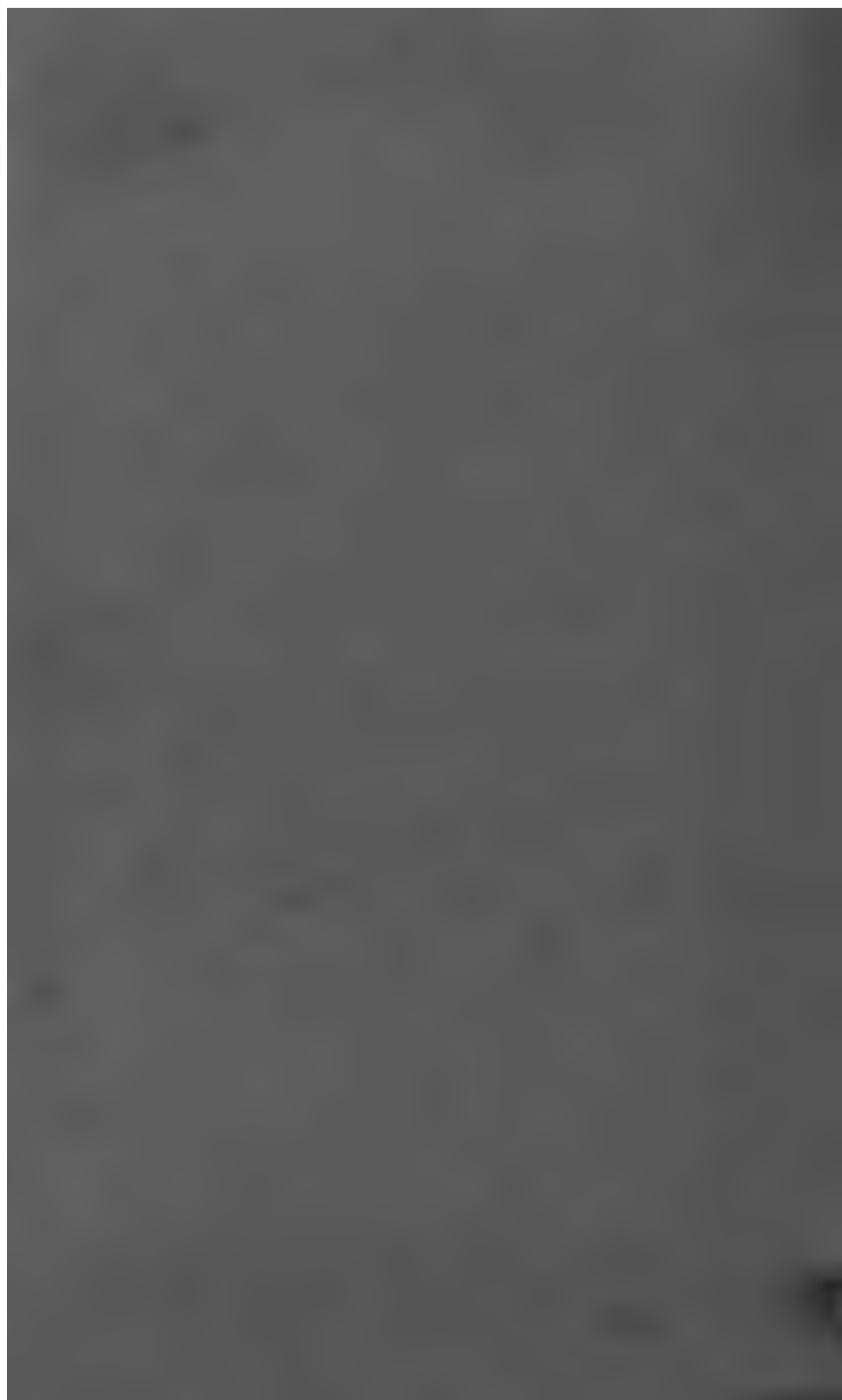
3. AND it is agreed that Mr. Horde shall give in exchange to those persons whose lands he shall enclose in the said Holiwell field, other lands of as good value as those for which he shall so inclose, AND that it shall be lawful for any of the said tenants and owners of lands to inclose any lands of the Lord's which are let at any rack rent so as Mr. Horde may have other lands in exchange of as good value.

4. AND that upon every inclosure of lands there shall be an abatement of Common proportionable, AND that there shall be likewise abatement of Common for all such little closes as have been formerly inclosed.

5. AND that Mr. Horde may inclose as much of Common

* It was Mr. Horde's custom to sell his yards of lands for three lives at a trifling yearly rental.

1





SUPPLEMENT TO THE HISTORY OF BAMPTON.

1.

THE CASE OF MR HORDE WITH THE FREEHOLDERS, COPYHOLDERS, AND LEASEHOLDERS OF ASTON AND COTE, STATED TO SIR ORLANDO BRIDGMAN AND MR JEFFREY PALMER, THE 30TH OF Nov. 1657.

A true state of the Manor of Aston, belonging to Thomas Horde Esq., together with the Village of Cote and the rest of Aston aforesaid both in the Parish of Bampton in the County of Oxford.

That in the Villages of Aston and Cote are 64 yard-lands belonging to the Manor of Aston-Boges, being the manor of the said Mr Horde, of which 40 yard-lands, 12 yard-lands are estated out to several tenants for lives by copy of Court Roll, 22 yards are let by lease to several tenants for 99 years if certain lives so long live, and 5 yard-lands, residue of the said 40 yard-lands, are let by several leases to several tenants for several terms under several rack rents, so as there is now no parcel of the said manor remaining in the Lord's hands except only the meadow and Beasts-commons belonging to half a yard-lands, which the said Mr Horde reserves to himself out of one of the Leases.

That of the other 24 yard-lands, residue of the said 64 yard-lands, about 12 yard-lands thereof was ancient freehold, not holden of the manor of Aston-Boges, nor paying any rent to the Lord thereof, or doing any suit to the courts there.

That 9 yard-lands more of the said 24 yard-lands were heretofore parcel of the manor of Shifford, a village adjacent, and were formerly held of the said manor by copy of Court-Roll, but all the tenants thereof were about 20 years since made freeholders by Sir John Yeate, who having a joint interest with Judge Williams* in the manor of Shifforde, had these lands set out to him for parcel of his moiety.

* John Williams, Lord Keeper, afterwards archbishop of York.

stone. If so, it means "Our lord the king's stone," for lafer or lauer is the Anglo-Saxon root of the English word lord.* See Madden's glossary to Lazamon.

Kentwine, mentioned in the next line, was brother to Cwichelm and son of Cynegils, king of Wessex. He died in 685.

In the time of James I, John Williams, archbishop of York, was joint lord of the manor of Shifford with Sir John Yeate.

I am indebted to B. Williams Esq. F. S. A. of Hillingdon, for the following additional particulars: "KENTWINE's tree is mentioned as one of the bounds of Shifford in a charter of Ensham abbey. Kentwine was of the royal race of the Kings of Mercia, and was King of the West Saxons in 676. Kinlaf's stone stood probably, where the boundary cross is now cut, opposite the Common gate between Cote and Shifford, and was probably one of those stones called Mænhirs, the superstitious worship of which was expressly forbidden by Canute when Christianity was embraced. Shifford was given by King Edgar, before the year 970, to the Duke Byrthnoth, the friend and councillor of king Edgar, as a reward for his services, and from him it descended to Leofwine, who bequeathed it to his cousin Aylmer, Earl of Cornwall, who about the year 1000 or 1005 gave it to the abbey of Ensham.

In addition to the Witan of Shifford, there were Witans held at Witney, (as its name, Witan-ige, the island of the Witan, testifies,) and at Longworth, then called Weorthig, or Wyrthe, anno 931. (See Kemble's Saxon Charters, no 1103.) A little beyond Longworth, is the village of Kingston Bagpuze, which doubtless derived its name too from King Alfred's presence, for his castle was close by. (See Charters, No 1276 and 1277.) At this once important town, the very name of which, Beak-puse — 'surrender purse' — is now suggestive of desolation, it is more than probable that three of our kings were crowned, viz. Æthelstan, Eadred, and Æthelred II. Some interesting particulars respecting Cote are given in the Gentleman's Magazine for December 1849, and the Pedigree of the Horde family is given in No 1 of Nichols's Topographer and Genealogist.

Page 109, NOTE line 5: *for* 1821 *read* 1801.

Page 110, line 21: *for* 1833 *read* 1839.

Page 176, line 29: *for* — *read* Williams.

* This emendation, which I made on conjecture only, has been confirmed by a friend, who writes me word that "one MS. reads Kinlauerd's."





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B21
1848

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